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## Daily Eastern News: April 11, 2003

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# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

April 11, 2003 ♦ FRIDAY



## Clean sweep

Both of Eastern's tennis  
teams defeat Tennessee State  
7-0.

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## Summer school to see cuts

By John Chambers  
ADMINISTRATION EDITOR

Two of the three solutions to Eastern's current fiscal callback relate to summer school.

Eastern now has to give back 2.9 percent, or \$1.5 million, down from a forecasted 8 percent reserve Gov. Rod Blagojevich announced in February.

The first solution is cutting classes in the summer curriculum with low enrollments.

The university named \$800,000 in summer school cuts last in the list responding to the governor's February request. The cut proposed eliminating the summer program.

"We will not have to execute this step," said Blair Lord, vice president for academic affairs. "We will, however, be looking very closely at small classes and canceling those which are not financially viable because of small enrollments."

The look at enrollment only starts with the summer and decisions on which classes will be cut could be finalized by the end of this month, he said.

It begins with deans looking over both current and past enrollments of summer classes.

"I would expect that there will be some classes affected at each level," Lord said.

Eastern could face more than 8 percent, or \$4 million, in cuts for Fiscal Year 2004 beginning July 1.

"What the effect will be on that part of the summer session which takes place after July 1, 2003 is still to be determined," Lord said. "While still

SEE SUMMER ♦ Page 07



STEPHEN HAAS/ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR

## Testing the sky

Members of the Eastern Illinois University ROTC Panther Battalion listen to their preflight safety instructions Thursday afternoon on the intramural softball fields. Two helicopters flown by members of Company A of the Army National Guard's First Battalion 106th Aviation Division, based in Decatur, visited Eastern to give the students a chance to ride in the aircraft.

## Ex-General Cougill enjoys mayoral life

By John Hohenadel  
STAFF WRITER

Mayor Dan Cougill said the last thing a military guy wants to be is a politician. However, nine years ago Cougill somehow managed to find himself as the mayor of Charleston.

Cougill was born and raised in Charleston and after he graduated from Eastern in 1963, he joined the Air Force.

While in the Air Force, Cougill shot up through the ranks and eventually became a general. The high ranking gave him the opportunity to meet Colin Powell and Norman Schwarzkopf.

"We moved a lot in my 28 years in the Air Force," Cougill said. "When I knew I was getting close to retirement, I told my wife to think of a place she wanted to settle down in."

"When I went to the Middle East for Desert Storm I gave her full power of attorney. She took advantage of it and bought a house in Charleston."

Cougill said he was more than happy to come back to his hometown. However, after spending some time in Charleston he realized it wasn't the same town that he left some time ago.

"I thought I had made a mistake," Cougill said.

Cougill was not shy about voicing his opinion about how Charleston changed. Because of this, many started asking him to run for mayor.

"This is really a Norman

Rockwell-type story," Cougill said. "People kept asking me to run for mayor and I kept telling them I didn't want to."

On Christmas Day, nine years ago, Cougill got his sign.

"Santa came, my son was playing in the band, it started to snow the biggest snowflakes you ever saw and the courthouse clock was ringing all at the same time," Cougill said. "I think that was my signal that I was supposed to run for mayor."

Cougill said he wouldn't want to be anywhere else.

"To answer the question, 'if you could have any job in the world what would it be?' implies that you don't like what you're doing right now," Cougill said.

"I've enjoyed every job I've ever had."

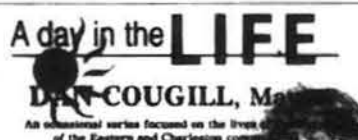
The town where Cougill used to pick strawberries for a penny a pint, now recognizes him as mayor.

"The best part of my job is making things happen," Cougill said. "I get in my car, drive around and just look what's happened since I've been here."

Cougill enjoys the sights of Kiwanis Park, the bike trail and the new brick walls in front of Old Main.

"These are things I look at and tell myself, 'You know you are making a little bit of a difference,'" Cougill said.

Cougill started Wednesday with a meeting concerning the annexation of some land by Sarah Bush Lincoln



Hospital. There are plans to create a lifespan center for senior citizens. Cougill said it would be an upgrade from the current senior centers of Charleston and Mattoon.

After the meeting, Cougill sat at his desk and went over some paperwork and took a couple of phone calls.

"I hate answering machines," Cougill said as he hung up the phone.

Occasionally, Cougill would get out of his chair, leave his office and walk through the halls while stopping in his co-workers' offices.

Eastern students bring plenty of good to Charleston, but Cougill said there are always some bad apples.

"I would adopt 97 percent of Eastern students," Cougill said. "The other 3 percent I would like to run out of town. It's those 3 percent of students that give 100 percent of them a bad name."

Cougill said he doesn't have much free time, by his own choosing.

"It's a part-time job, but I owe this town an awful lot," Cougill said. "It gave me an education and my work ethic."

Cougill sounded off on his pet peeves and things along those lines.

"My biggest pet peeves are rumors and people who believe everything they hear," Cougill said.

## Cougill is a stronger mayor than most in the council-manager system, McNitt says

By Tim Martin  
CAMPUS EDITOR

Of the three major forms of city government, Charleston uses the council manager system that has a full-time city manager and council members.

Alan Probst is currently the city manager of Charleston. In a traditional council manager government, Probst would have the most authoritative power, but that is not the case, said Andrew McNitt, political science professor.

"Charleston technically is a city manager system although the mayor in Charleston plays a much stronger role than mayors in other systems would play," McNitt said.

Charleston mayor Dan Cougill plays a large role in the developing policies and pushing programs, McNitt said.

"In our case because we had a fairly effective political leader (Cougill) before we switched to the council manager system, the fact he retained the leadership role is not unusual," McNitt said.

The city manager, who unlike most council members is a full-time employee, is utilized as a professional manager. The man-

ager would act as a check for the council and vice versa.

"The manager is supposed to be a professional manager who fills out the budget and handles day-to-day operations," McNitt said. "But he usually doesn't engage in anything political."

McNitt said the city manager usually has more experience and education on city government policies and tactics. The manager, more or less, simply offers the best alternative and lets the council decide the course of action.

In typical council manager governments, the mayor would have the same amount of legislative powers as the fellow council members. Cougill is one of five council members.

"It's a small council. They are elected by people at large in a non-partisan election," McNitt said. "It's sort of like an administrative board with the manager at the top of the professional employment hierarchy."

The other two types of government are the mayor-council system and the commission system.

The mayor council is used in either very big or small cities. McNitt said cities such as

SEE COUGILL ♦ Page 07



# Volunteers to paint area homes

◆ *Bucket Brigade will work on homes Sunday*

By Lea Erwin  
STAFF WRITER

Bucket Brigade, a new community service project, is a one-day effort to paint the houses of those within the Charleston community who are financially or physically unable to do so.

Student Body President Alison Mormino has been planning the project all year, and it will finally take place Saturday.

Mormino got the idea for the project from Alton, her hometown.

"This project is an annual event there," she said.

Mormino said nine homes were selected. The homeowners were nominated by churches, local citizens and the city manager's office.

The Bucket Brigade will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union to pick up supplies. The project is expected to conclude at 3:30 or 4 p.m., and a picnic may take place afterward for the donors, homeowners and volunteers.

"I have at least 110 to 120 volunteers, mostly student organizations on campus," Mormino said.

Some such organizations include the University Board, Student Government, Lincoln Hall Council, Pre-Law honorary society, Alpha Sigma Tau, Service Learning from Charleston High School, Epsilon Sigma Alpha, Beta Alpha Psi, Alpha Phi, Phi Epsilon Mu, and Alpha Kappa Delta.

Funding is being provided by First Charleston Eagles, Association of Honors Students and Sherwin Williams, which Mormino said is a major donor for painting supplies.

Some donors include Linda Morford, chair of the department of educational administration; the geology and geography department; Taylor Hall Council; Interfraternity Council; Andrews Hall Council; New Life

Tabernacle Church; Weller Hall Council; Alpha Kappa Delta; McKinney Hall Council; Mortar Board; Wesley United Methodist Church; Eastern's School of Business; United Otterbein Methodist Church and the Panhellenic Council.

"We have received \$900 thus far," Mormino said. "This should cover cost, hopefully, if we only have to use the \$900. However if it goes over, we will go into the Student Government account."

Brice Donnelly, chair of the Student Senate Tuition and Fee Review Committee, said he is volunteering and he wants "to make sure we (Student Government) do a good, quality job."

"It is great getting out to the community," Donnelly said. "It will help to smooth out any negative feelings the community may have towards the students, and it will help to further involvement in the community."

One of the homeowners who is allowing the students to paint his house is Russel Hill.

"It's going to help the community and it's going to depend more so on how the students feel about doing this," Hill said. "And what frame of mind are they in to be doing this?"

"It's more of the sincerity of doing a good job on this challenge, and not just doing it to get it done, and how well they are going to be working together to get the goal accomplished," he said.

Hill said he became aware of the project through the local newspaper.

"(Because of) the negative things publicized in reference to the Homecoming situation, (this project) may change the negative perspective the students received and let the community know that the students are trying to help the community, and that some students want to keep the town as nice as it is," Hill said.



COLIN MCAULIFFE/PHOTO EDITOR

## Hungry for fun

Shovonne Woods, a sophomore pre-nursing major and member of Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority, stuffs her mouth with a cracker topped with anchovies, pigs feet, hot sauce, Spam Lite, and other 'goodies' during Fun Games, part of Greek Week, Thursday afternoon at the Campus Pond.

## Sigma Tau Delta awards poetry

By Jennifer Chiariello  
ACTIVITIES EDITOR

The annual Sigma Tau Delta High School Writing Awards Reading & Reception will award poetry and fiction entries from high school students Friday.

Stephanie Ernst, chair of the writing contest and treasurer of international English honors society Sigma Tau Delta said, "(Sigma Tau Delta) is trying to encourage an enjoyment of writing in high schools ... through our events, we try to promote literacy and a love for literature and writing."

This is Ernst's third year organizing the contest, she said.

The writing contest has been going on since at least 1997.

The competition includes a fiction category and a poetry category, Ernst said.

Usually the contest awards three winners in each category, but this year four winners will be awarded in the poetry category and two winners will be awarded in the fiction category.

Ernst said Sigma Tau Delta sent letters of participation to high schools in November and participants sent their submissions to Sigma Tau Delta in February.

This year, around 40-50 participants entered the contest, Ernst said. The participants and win-

ners selected are students from Oakland, Robinson and Litchfield high schools.

Members of Sigma Tau Delta judged the contest without knowledge of the applicants' name or school, and Ernst has the master list to award the winners.

"We don't just recognize the winners: any student who participates receives a certificate of participation because they all put a lot of effort into it," Ernst said.

The event is sponsored by the English Department and Sigma Tau Delta.

The awards reading and reception will be from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday at the Tarble Arts Center.

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By Matthew Stevens  
STAFF WRITER

Eastern's history department saw no better way to honor Barry Riccio than to hold a lecture about the subject he loved.

The history department will present the First Annual Barry D. Riccio Memorial Lecture at 7 p.m. Friday in Lumpkin Hall Room 2030.

The lecture is open to the public and is intended to spotlight historians making significant contributions to American cultural history. "(The history department) has

plans to make this event ongoing and I can see former colleagues, students and interested community members all attending this lecture," said Dan Crews, director of publicity for the College of Arts and Humanities.

Riccio was a former member of the department who passed away in 2001 at the age of 46. He was a scholar of American political and intellectual history.

"(Riccio) was highly admired by faculty and students really enjoyed his classes because he challenged them intellectually," Crews said.

When Riccio lost his battle with cancer, the history department began coming up with ways to honor his memory.

"(Riccio) loved American cultural history and they thought it would be good to honor him in this fashion," Crews said.

The lecture will begin with special guest speaker James B. Gilbert from the University of Maryland at College Park. Gilbert is recognized as one of the keenest observers of American cultural and intellectual history and his resume includes writing eight monographs.



# Parties announce candidates for elections

## ◆ Student Voice party wants to bridge gaps in campus community

◆ **Editor's note:** The Student's Voice and the Campus Change parties are not the only parties running for the April 22 and 23 Student Government elections. Bud Wierenga of the Reckless Abandon party also is running for election, and a story about his candidacy will appear on Monday. In addition, a story will run on any other candidates when they announce candidacy.

By Avian Carrasquillo  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT EDITOR

Amy Leonard hopes to be the voice of the student body, as she will seek office for student body president with the Student's Voice Party.

Rounding out the ticket, Kyle Donash is running for executive vice president, Lindsey Baum is seeking student vice president for student affairs, and Amanda Sartore is running for student vice president for academic affairs.

Leonard wanted to run for president for a chance to do more with student life.

"I really enjoyed the external part with lobbying, so I want to help out every other position to improve and change more," Leonard said.

Leonard's platforms include:

**Affordability**  
"Especially with the budget the way it is, we want to keep tuition and fees as low as possible," she said. "We want to study things like tuition and fee caps."

**Improving the online community**  
Leonard said even if she isn't elected she would like to work on improving the online community.

"We don't really have anything other than the PAWS system, which is mostly used for registering and checking grades," she said. "I learned about a program called SINAPSE from the Council on Student Government Association. It's basically a student online community that bridges the gap between students and organizations on campus and administration."

Donash said he wanted to run for the executive vice president seat because he loves Student Government.

"I've always liked it," Donash said. "When I was in high school I was really involved in it."

Donash's platforms include:

**Student Action Team expansion**  
"Right now it's a very small group of people made up of only senators," he said. "We need to try our best to try and reach out to other types of students to get them involved, whether it's someone from the education department, or biology department because when we go to Springfield the senators and representatives want to see a diverse sampling of students at Eastern."

**Change a law revoking drivers licenses for underage drinkers**

"What we want to try and do is work with the other state universities to form a coalition to go to Springfield and lobby for

"I really enjoyed the external part with lobbying, so I want to help out every other position to improve."

—Amy Leonard

changes to the bill," he said. "Maybe a three-strikes-and-you're-out policy, or depending on the severity of the case, maybe you get a ticket or something along those lines. I personally feel, and the mayor agrees with me, that it's not really a fair law."

**Establish a better relationship with Eastern's Board of Trustees**

"We want to get them to come to more events on campus like Student Senate meetings, so that they can better represent the students."

Lindsey Baum decided to run for student vice president of student affairs because she thinks in the past the position has been passive.

Baum's platforms include:

**Bridge the gap between Student Government and the student body**

"I think if we all came together we could really solve some problems that we have here on campus, instead of just Student Government working on it," Baum said.

Baum said she would like to create a constituency council, for students to either meet biweekly or bimonthly and talk about any issues at the university.

Baum said the council would work to create an optional freshman leadership retreat, which would have all freshmen and transfer students come together to talk about what life is like at Eastern.

"We'd like to instill some Panther pride in them, teach them the school song," she said. "We'd invite (Recognized Student Organizations) to come down and expose the new students to what's going on on campus."

**Extend Unity Week**

"I want to start up a committee right away to address how to improve unity and get better programming, advertise better, so that when we do have it, it will be huge," she said.

Amanda Sartore has followed the work of her predecessors who worked as the studnet vice president of academic affairs and wanted to continue to do a good job.

Sartore's platforms include:

**Implement a student-created scholarship database**

"I would like to implement a program created by a student, so it wouldn't cost any money," Sartore said. "This is where a student would enter their information into the database which would match them to a scholarship."

**Extend library hours**

"I know past attempts to do this haven't worked, but I think maybe I could come up with a different strategy," she said.

## ◆ Campus Change party pushes for reforms, flow of new ideas

◆ **Editor's note:** The Student's Voice and the Campus Change parties are not the only parties running for the April 22 and 23 Student Government elections. Bud Wierenga of the Reckless Abandon party also is running for election, and a story about his candidacy will appear on Monday. In addition, a story will run on any other candidates when they announce candidacy.

By Angela Harris  
STAFF WRITER

Caleb Judy, University Board chair, hopes to lead the voice of change next fall.

Judy will run for student body president on the Campus Change Party.

"This party name was regenerated from past names and so are many running parties titles chosen," Judy said. "I have a lot of experience in my position on the University Board as well as being here the longest at EIU compared to other students."

Judy said changes need to be made in advising the Student Senate members on matters and educating them.

"They need a mentoring program," which Judy said is on his agenda.

Mentors will be used for executives in the Student Senate as well as for the students. Judy is looking for competent leaders who can implement the mentoring program.

"There are a lot of students with great ideas but (Student Government) needs direction from someone to implement them," Judy said.

Bill Davidson is under the Campus Change Party ticket running for executive vice president; Larry Ward will run for student vice president of business affairs, Lisa Flam is running for student vice president of student affairs. No one is running for vice president of academic affairs.

Judy said he wants to continue community service projects such as Bucket Brigade and develop a student leadership council to represent the students and implement programs such as snow removal or clean up committees for community service.

He wants to implement a pamphlet into orientation and bring to light the older traditions including the school song and where the Panther mascot came from.

Davidson said he wants to see change in the output of the university. Davidson wants to declare September as voter registration month, setting up a subcommittee to go door-to-door to off-campus students to get them involved and registered for the elections.

Davidson said he is an active voice for Eastern's Board of Trustees and wants to inform students more on how much power the BOT has and how their decisions affect them.

Davidson would like to have biweekly meetings with the Charleston Times-Courier and give information to the community about charity and philanthropy services on campus. He said he wants to include fliers in the Charleston and Mattoon papers about the good things being done at Eastern.

Davidson said Town Hall meetings with the community, the mayor and city council are on the agenda.

"These would open the door to communicating about house parties and sidewalk renovation as well as other community-campus concerns" Davidson said.

Davidson is adamant about establishing a

"There are a lot of students with great ideas, but (Student Government) needs someone to implement them."

—Caleb Judy

curbside recycling program.

"The only communities concerned were Mattoon and Oakland, but Mayor (Dan) Coughill was for the idea," Davidson said. "Those communities concerned were due to the impact it would have on present companies providing services whom have done so for years."

After some investigation, Davidson said companies who could provide such services would cost the same or only increase by a few dollars.

Another agenda item, which was the idea of Charleston resident Bob McElwee, is a block party Davidson wants to implement, in hopes to "stimulate relationships over a beer," and will be part of a community organization of "Neighbors for a Peaceful Neighborhood."

Davidson also seeks a Student Action Team Committee to create unity between Eastern and surrounding colleges including Illinois State University, Southern Illinois University, Western Illinois University and University of Illinois.

"The committee will communicate with those colleges about higher education funding issues that we all face," Davidson said.

A Parents Club is also on Davidson's agenda, to lobby state legislature and will include templates and letters for members to make it easier for them to follow through with their legislature, and get them more involved.

"There are many more ideas that definitely could be attainable, and will be done if I am elected," Davidson said.

Larry Ward is running for student vice president of business affairs.

"Students need to know what they pay and where it goes when it comes to their fees," Ward said.

Ward said he wants to increase awareness of the Apportionment Board and the Tuition and Fee Review Committee so students know what their functions are.

"I will hold forums and hand out pamphlets to bring awareness," Ward said.

He also wants to implement a Web site that will have a breakdown of each credit hour and what each fee covers.

Ward is concerned about Recognized Student Organization funding and implementing a student leadership council, which Ward said 20 other universities have.

Ward said he wants to see increased unity on campus, and said he knows the best way to effectively run the executive body, because of his experience as president of Delta Tau Delta fraternity.

Lisa Flam is seeking a second term as student vice president of student affairs.

"I've done research on student leadership council, and I'm working with Larry Ward, my running mate," she said.

Flam said the student leadership council would bring together Panhellenic Council and other RSOs.

"There will be a program chair, committee service chair and student leaders in attendance at meetings, and this is good for small RSOs, who are eligible for an amount of money after they attend the semester meetings," Flam said.

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## EDITORIAL

# Greek life in dire need of diversity

The term diversity is defined in Webster's Encyclopedic Dictionary as showing variety or the state of unlikeness. Bob Dudulski, director of greek life, said he thinks the greek community is as diverse as the rest of the campus community, and in some ways he's right.

But in many others, he couldn't be any more wrong.

The numbers from the residents of Greek Court prove Dudulski's hypothesis, but it is a few smaller fraternities and sororities carrying the diversity torch.

Others don't have the diversity to spark any differences.

What could possibly be different and diverse about the all-white 35-member Alpha Gamma Delta House? Blonde versus brunette?

Imagine the diverse shades of lipstick and eye shadow there.

The similarly all-white Alpha Phi sorority is 28 strong. The Alpha Sigma Alpha house's 24 residents are all white. The 37 residents of the Sigma Kappa House are all white and so are the 34 at the Sigma Sigma Sigma House.

Some diversity exists there.

Four of the Delta Zeta House's 27 members are black. Five of the 36 members of Sigma Phi Epsilon are black. Unfortunately, these are exceptions in Greek Court, not the rule.

Most of the minorities in Greek Court belong to the all-black Sigma Gamma Rho or the Phi Beta Sigma House where all but one of the seven residents there are black.

It's one thing to talk about diversity on campus, which many at Eastern do, the greek community included.

The greeks held an event called Seeking Alliances through Leadership and Diversity, where diversity issues were raised and members of Recognized Student Organizations talked about their pushes for diversity. In other words, a talk shop was held.

Members of the greek community must do more than simply talk.

While sororities and fraternities don't look at race in the rush process and it would be unreasonable for them to do that, many don't recruit beyond their peer groups.

While Greek Week comes to a close, members of the greek community should take pause to think about how they can include and reach out to those who are different instead of settling for the status quo.

Greeks also should research the definition of community if they want to continue to call themselves one.

While greeks all hold a common interest, the definition of community, that interest comes from a small group of similar voices. That must change, or the greek community's voice would be silenced.

The editorial is the majority opinion of The Daily Eastern News editorial board.

**At issue**  
The lack of ethnic diversity in the greek system

**Our stance**  
The greek community needs more diverse voices and must make a concerted effort to recruit from all races.

## OPINION

# War not a humanitarian one



**Charles Delman**  
Mathematics professor and guest columnist for *The Daily Eastern News*

He can be reached at 581-2812 or cfcid@eiu.edu

Iraqi hospitals overflow with horribly wounded people, many of them young children. Desperate people, lacking clean water, drink out of ditches. Many may die of disease.

Perhaps some people do not want us to see these things.

Yesterday, a United States jet fired a rocket from close range at the offices of Al-Jazeera TV, killing a correspondent and wounding his cameraman. The military knew the coordinates of the office. Al-Jazeera has angered both sides by trying to report the war straight.

Later, a United States tank fired on the Palestine hotel, headquarters for some 200 journalists, killing two and wounding four. The military claims it responded to sniper fire, but videotapes and eyewitness accounts record no gunfire. For a full account of these atrocities, see Robert Fisk's reports in the Independent (<http://www.independent.co.uk/>).

But the war is almost over, you say.

Saddam is gone; the Iraqis are cheering. Can we forget Iraq now?

As we forgot Afghanistan, now reverted to warlords' control except in the capital, and receiving little of the promised reconstruction aid?

Can we forget Africa, suffering from severe drought and receiving only a tiny portion of the aid needed to prevent famine? The money Africa needs is barely a hundredth of what we've spent invading Iraq.

*"Why has Congress, at Bush's request, cut veterans' benefits?"*

What about our troops? Why has Congress, at Bush's request, cut veterans' benefits? Who will help these people, emotionally scarred by the horror they have seen, if not physically scarred by enemy bullets, when they return home to rising unemployment and shrinking funds for education and health care?

This is not a humanitarian war. If the United States government wanted to help people, it would instead fund education, health care, and other social needs, both at home and abroad.

This is not a war against terrorism. Rather, by giving credibility to bin Laden's claims, our invasion has already increased recruitment for Al Qaeda.

Although the Iraqi regime did support suicide bombers against Israel, the elimination of this support is far outweighed by the new terror the war will spawn, not to mention the terror of the war itself. Terrorists who want chemical or nuclear materials can find them in the former Soviet Union or Pakistan.

This is not a war to rid Iraq of weapons of mass destruction. Saddam did have an ambitious program to acquire such weapons, but it had been

destroyed before the war. Any remaining weapons would have been found by aggressive inspection.

On the contrary, the United States invasion of Iraq will increase the proliferation of nuclear weapons, as small countries acquire them in hopes of deterring the world superpower. It's scary, but fear is useful if you want to tear apart the fabric of society to benefit a wealthy few while curtailing people's liberty and will to resist.

This is a war for money and power. American investors will profit handsomely from contracts to extract and sell Iraq's vast oil wealth, perhaps purchasing it at bargain-basement prices from a compliant new regime.

The United States also hopes to break OPEC, ensuring cheap crude oil to increase the petroleum industry's profits and give United States industries an edge over their more energy-efficient European and Japanese competitors. Let's not forget the arms industry, military bases and the "street cred" engendered by our attack.

Only the American people could have stopped this illegal, immoral war, and we failed. Unlike Iraqis under Saddam, we are responsible for our government. The least we can do now is try to hold it to its promises about genuine self-governance and a better life for Iraqis. Perhaps we also could work for a better world.

Cartoon by Rita Reinhardt



## YOUR TURN: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Profanity-laced column offensive

I'm writing in response to the column "Tell it like it is, fellow patriots," published in the April 2 edition of *The Daily Eastern News*.

I strongly disagreed with the approach taken by the columnist. First and foremost, I didn't appreciate the swearing in the column. It's not to say I have never used a curse word, but I don't see how swearing gets a point across.

More than anything, I believe it makes the columnist sound ignorant. My second point comes straight from her words when she stated, "The Supreme Court took that inalienable right away from us." I'm not a registered voter and even had I been at the time of our last

presidential election, I would have reserved my right to vote simply because I didn't believe any of the candidates were capable of holding office efficiently and appropriately. I don't believe my right was taken by the Supreme Court.

I do believe the Supreme Court cleaned up where many ignorant Americans blundered. I also fervently oppose the broad generalizations used to end the column.

To state "no one likes [Bush]," and he is a "total moron" seems juvenile and vastly incorrect. Please, voice an opinion, but make sure it's your own and not a compilation of quotes possibly taken out of context.

Andrea York  
Sophomore English major  
Each fall the Haiti

## Donate items for Haiti yard sale

Connection at Eastern holds a yard sale to raise money to fund projects in Haiti.

Any student, faculty or staff member can help us aid the people in Haiti by donating good useable items, anything from mugs to rugs, that you are not planning to take home.

This also is a creative way to save our landfill space. We will have drop-off areas set up outside each residence hall starting April 22 through May 4.

Or you also can contact us to have items picked up.

Contact Susan at 348-7528 or Theresa at 581-3542 or call the Newman Center at 348-0188.

Remember our motto: "If it won't fit in your car, it will in ours!"

Theresa Kronenburger  
Chair, Haiti yard sale

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The Daily Eastern News accepts letters to the editor addressing local, state, national and international issues. They should be less than 250 words and include the authors' name, telephone number and address. Students should indicate their year in school and major. Faculty, administration and staff should indicate their position and department. Letters whose authors cannot be verified will not be printed. Depending on space constraints, we may edit letters, so keep it concise. Letters can be sent to *The Daily Eastern News* at 1811 Buzzard Hall, Charleston IL 61920; faxed to 217-581-2923; or e-mailed to majones@eiu.edu



OUT & ABOUT

# Where skater boys (and girls) can play

By Carly Mullady  
CITY EDITOR

Bicyclists, skateboarders and rollerbladers can wheel their way to a free opportunity for practicing talents or releasing energy that built up during the long winter.

Charleston's skate park, located within North Park on Illinois Route 130, offers a variety of ramps for learning or perfecting tricks.

It is featured within a city park and the City Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for its upkeep.

Local skaters, skate boarders and bicyclists use the skate park as well as people from neighboring cities. People from surrounding cities, including those between Charleston and Champaign, skate and bicycle through the park.

Anyone from novice to semi-professional sponsored skaters work on their tricks at the park.

Ed Thomas, chairman of the state park committee said the nearest skate park is in Champaign.

"The Champaign park was built

more recently in a different style out of concrete," he said.

"We see quite a few college kids," Thomas said.

The park was originally built in 1997.

Local workers built the park by hand, but it eventually suffered from the wear and tear of weather and use.

In July 2001, Phase 1 of reconstruction was completed and the following July

Phase 2 was finished, completing the park. Thomas said the reconstruction was professionally done by a group called True Ride from Minnesota.

A special skate park committee takes care of changes and supervision at the park.

Thomas said the group is always looking for more volunteers.

Once a year, the park sponsors a jam session which hosts about 300 people. The session is usually held in the fall.

"It's a good time to hang out and show off your best tricks," Thomas said.

The park is open to the public daily, from dawn to dusk.



DANIEL WILLIAMS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Josh Dodson, of Champaign, does a trick Thursday afternoon at the Charleston Skate Park while other skaters look on. Dodson and his friends drive down from Champaign frequently just to skate in the park.

## Council approves three-step plan for transcript changes

By Kevin Micks  
STAFF WRITER

The Council on Academic Affairs Thursday approved a three-step process for removing a grade of incomplete from a student's transcript.

With the new policy, a submission of an incomplete or default grade must be submitted to the Records Office.

The instructor and student then submit a completion plan describing how the course requirements will be met, and provide a guideline for their completion, according to a proposal to the council.

If the course has been success-

fully completed, the instructor will then turn in a grade correction form to the Records Office. However, if the course has not been completed by the deadline, the default grade, which was previously assigned, will become the permanent grade.

Students are expected to begin completion of any incomplete courses during their next enrollment period. The CAA discussed whether a student who receives an incomplete for spring semester would begin its completion before fall if enrolled during the summer.

According to the proposal, the deadline for completion of the requirements is no later than the

last class day one calendar year from the end of the term in which the grade of "I" was received.

Students suffering from illness or trauma preventing them from enrolling in the next year would be exempt from this deadline.

Richard Wandling, chair of the political science department, and Karen Swenson, assistant professor of political science, proposed a revision to PLS 2512, Mock Trial.

According to the 2002-2003 undergraduate catalog, Mock Trial is a role-playing class in which students are trained to represent attorneys and witnesses in a mock trial competition.

The course begins during the

fall semester and continues into the spring semester. However, students were previously awarded credit only for the spring semester. The fall semester is spent in preparation for the spring competition.

The approved revision now awards credit for both semesters.

"Some students choose to put in 20 to 30 hours per week," Swenson said.

The revision would not only award them for this work, but would encourage students to take both semesters seriously, instead of just the spring semester, which awards credit, she said.

Proposals to revise PLS 2211 and PLS 2611 both were with-

drawn.

The CAA also approved a proposal that will make the Writing Across the Curriculum Committee a subcommittee to the Committee of the Assessment of Student Learning.

The combining of the two committees will give WACC more of a voice in the assessment of student writing and allow for funding of the WACC newsletter, said Daiva Markelis, WACC chair and assistant English professor.

Revision to the policies for awarding undergraduate credit were postponed until CAA chair Nancy Marlow receives feedback from the deans of each college.

## Have Your Stories Seen By A Diverse Group Of People



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## COMING UP

# More than food for thought at 'Taste'

By Carly Mullady  
CITY EDITOR

The Charleston Area Chamber of Commerce welcomes citizens to choose the "Taste of Charleston" and local business showcase this weekend.

"Choose Charleston" and the "Taste of Charleston" are sponsored by Big Picture, Charleston Outfitters, Midas, Mooney Motors and 21st Century Dental Care.

The showcase is held to introduce the public to goods and services available throughout the area, said Laura Sullivan of the chamber.

E.L. Kracker's, A&W/KFC, Arby's, Coca-Cola, Eastern's Food Court, Jerry's Pizza and Pub, Pizza Hut, What's Cookin' and Roc's Blackfront will be serving food at the "Taste of Charleston."

"We have more businesses for the Taste than last year," Sullivan said.

Both profit and non-profit organizations are involved in the Showcase 2003, Sullivan said.

The Charleston Jaycees, Recreation Department and Tourism department are non-profit organizations taking part in the showcase.

Community Blood Services of Illinois, Mid-Illinois Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Sexual Assault Counseling and Information Services and Soyland Access for Independent Living are non-profit organizations also joining the Charleston Area Chamber of Commerce for "Choose Charleston".

Sullivan said Community Blood Services of Illinois' bloodmobile will be taking donations.

"All donations will be provided to Sarah Bush (Lincoln Health System)," she said.

Other business exhibitors include the sponsors of the event as well as Mary-Kay cosmetics, Razorz Edge Salon and Day Spa, Barbeck Communications, Lifeline of Sarah Bush Lincoln Health System, Synchronicity Riding School and Citizens National Bank. Weber Jewelry, Eastern, WEIU-TV, WXET 107.9 and Edward-Jones Investments also are part of the showcase.

Those who attend can register to win in a raffle sponsored by willing exhibitors. The grand prize is \$300 in Chambers Checks which can be spent at chamber businesses.

The Showcase 2003 will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and the "Taste of Charleston" will last from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday at Charleston High School.

The Showcase is free to attend but the Taste costs \$5 per person or \$4 for senior citizens or those with a student ID. Sullivan expects a large turnout.

"We hope to have 300 to 400 people from the community and Eastern students," she said.



STEPHEN HAAS/ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR

## Good boy

Stephanie Twardy, a junior elementary education major, watches an intramural softball game with Duke, a 9-month-old yellow Labrador retriever Thursday afternoon by the intramural fields. Twardy was watching her boyfriend's team.

# RHA changes voting procedure

◆ *Each residence hall receives three representatives with more than two votes*

By Joaquin Ochoa  
STAFF WRITER

The Residence Hall Association approved a voting bill 21-8 on Thursday, which will change the voting procedure for the next academic school year.

Under the new procedure, each residence hall will get three representatives who have three votes.

This is a change from the previous model, where the number of voting representatives was based on resi-

dent population.

Megan Stepp, vice president of programming, introduced a proposal to have each residence hall schedule a weekend to have one campus-wide program.

"Based on a resident survey, students said they wanted more weekend programming," Stepp said. "RHA is the residents' voice and the residents want more programming."

RHA President Stina Heldmann said, "This is a coordination between Housing, RHA and NRHH to help halls get off to a good start. Each hall and organization will have one weekend they can volunteer for throughout the semester."

In an effort to reduce stress for the

vice-president position, vice president Matt O'Malley introduced a proposal to reduce the number of committees to plan programs in a more efficient manner.

The executive board received feedback from other schools at conferences about their committee structure.

"Too many committees have been an issue that has existed for many years at RHA," Heldmann said. "We've put together an effective structure that we feel we can implement."

The proposal was tabled for next week's meeting.

RHA meets at 5 p.m. next Thursday in Ford Hall.

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Cougill:

## Charleston has city-manager form of government

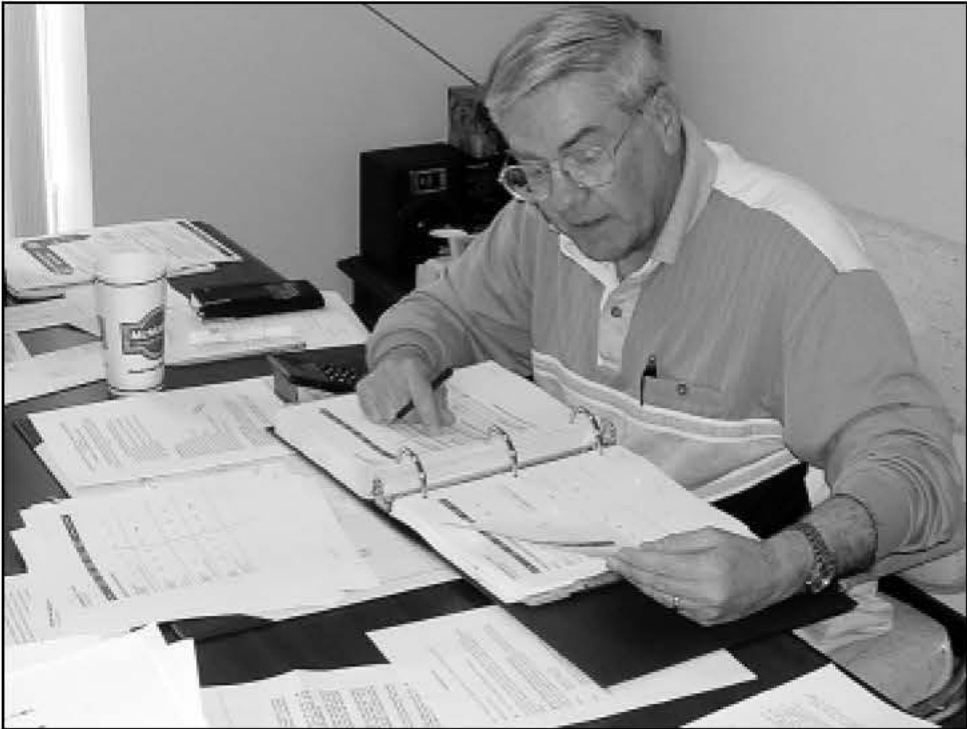
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 01

Chicago and New York use the mayor council format, where the mayor is elected administrative officer who has considerable authority.

The commission system is only used in

about 2 percent of towns in the United States, and has a series of commissioners that have equal authority, McNitt said.

"Believe me, it's not a good idea," he said. "There's no system of checks and balances."



JOHN HOHENADEL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Charleston Mayor Dan Cougill goes over paperwork in his office Wednesday afternoon.

## U.S. takes Oil-Rich Kirkuk

(AP)-Opposition forces crumbled in northern Iraq on Thursday as U.S. and Kurdish troops seized oil-rich Kirkuk without a fight and held a second city within their grasp. U.S. commanders said signs pointed to a last stand by Iraqis in Saddam Hussein's birthplace of Tikrit.

Despite the gains, one Marine was killed and 22 injured in a seven-hour battle in the Iraqi capital. Four more were wounded in a suicide bombing. "Baghdad's still an ugly place," said Maj. Gen. Gene Renuart.

Widespread looting persisted 24 hours after the city celebrated the regime's fall.

Increasingly, the U.S. military focus was away from the capital. Kurdish troops set off celebrations in Kirkuk when they

moved in, and there were hopes that Iraqis would surrender in Mosul, another northern city, on Friday.

Nearly 100 miles to the north of Baghdad, U.S. commanders said Tikrit was the likely site of a last stand by Iraqi forces — if there is to be one. Iraqi defenders were believed to have moved there from other parts of the country. U.S. commandos were in the region, and warplanes were attacking.

U.S.-led fighters and bombers also hit Iraqi positions near the border with Syria, where special forces were trying to prevent regime loyalists from slipping out of Iraq and to keep foreign fighters from entering.

Summer:

## Summer school receiving cuts to help budget crisis

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 01

murky, it appears it may present us with bigger challenges than the FY 03 callback."

Next year's budget is up against a \$5 billion deficit and proposed cuts of \$112 million across higher education.

The second solution is running the air conditioning less in some academic and residence buildings on Friday afternoon and over the weekend.

Overall, the temperature increase will be about 10 degrees in those buildings. Buildings like Booth Library, the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union or science buildings will not experience the air change because of items stored in them or planned summer events and activities.

There are more than 150 individual classes in 65 academic areas scheduled for at least an hour of class time after noon on Friday, according to the current summer course catalog.

Many classes are listed for times yet to be announced.

The solution will include moving classes to

buildings they are not usually taught in.

"So as far as scheduling goes, we are looking closely at all scheduled activities to ensure that they get scheduled in buildings with working air handling," Lord said. "We have not completed this project which must be done in conjunction with our facilities folks, but it is ongoing."

Turning down the air will save \$50,000 for this fiscal year alone.

Carman Hall and buildings in Greek Court will be closed, but "most of our (residence) buildings are full all summer," said Mark Hudson, director of housing and dining.

Hudson said the halls that will be air conditioned will be determined at the start of each week and vary as the summer progresses.

Classroom changes are the main concern.

"We expect that other than going to some different buildings there should be no serious impacts on students (or faculty) from this process," Lord said.

The third solution relates to university insurance costs.

## Editors win a round in campus censorship case

CHICAGO (AP) — A federal appeals court upheld Thursday the right of campus editors at Governors State University to sue a dean on grounds that she illegally sought to review the student paper before it went to press.

The U.S. 7th Circuit Court of Appeals said that while the Supreme Court has placed limits on the free-speech rights of high-school editors, the same restrictions should not necessarily apply to college editors.

"The differences between a college and a high school are far greater than the obvious differences in curriculum and extracurricular activities," Judge Terence T. Evans wrote for the three-judge panel.

The suit was filed by two former student editors, Margaret Hosty and Jeni Porche, and a onetime campus writer, Stephen L. Baron.

Hosty and Porche became editors at the Innovator, the campus paper at the 6,000-student university, in May 2000.

They quickly launched investigations of what they claimed were improprieties at the

school, including grade inflation and overly generous student stipends. Both sides agree that the claims stirred no controversy.

But relations with the administration soured. They got worse after the dean of student affairs, Patricia Carter, telephoned the printer and told him not to go to press until she had reviewed the contents of the paper.

The editors sued the university trustees and a number of school officials. U.S. District Judge Suzanne Conlon dismissed the civil charges against all the defendants except Dean Carter.

Lawyers from the Illinois attorney general's office appealed that ruling, citing the doctrine of qualified immunity.

Qualified immunity protects government officials performing their jobs if their conduct does not violate clearly established statutes or constitutional rights about which a reasonable person would have known.

The student editors, lacking money to hire an attorney, filed their own response to the attorney general's appeal.

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5 Bedroom House with 2 baths! 2 kitchens with stove/fridge. Also washer/dryer, dishwasher and a basement with plenty of extra storage. Want it DSL ready-no problem! 345-5088. \$275/person. 4/15

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1 BEDROOM HOUSE. AVAILABLE JUNE 1ST. \$300 PER MONTH. INCLUDES TRASH REMOVAL. 345-4010. 00

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GREEK WEEK: Tugs finals at 2pm at the Campus pond on Saturday. April 12th 4/11

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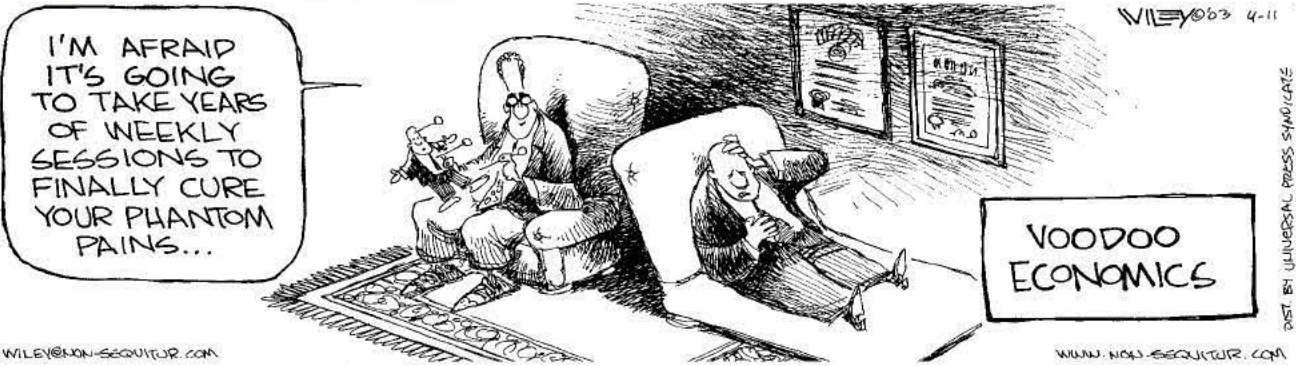
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SOFTBALL



STEPHEN HAAS/ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR

Freshman first baseman Jenny Cervetto throws to first after fielding a bunt Wednesday against Southeast Missouri State University.

# Timing for TSU games fortunate

By Matt Williams  
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Tennessee State could not have been scheduled at a better time for Eastern's softball team.

The Panthers (6-23,1-5) snapped their 13-game losing streak Wednesday, and nearly took the second game in an Ohio Valley Conference double header against Southeast Missouri State University.

The Tigers (6-22, 3-8) have had an equal amount of struggles this season, and this could be the opportunity Eastern has been waiting for a couple games in the win column.

The two teams meet for a three-game series this weekend with both teams looking to escape from the bottom of the OVC standings.

Eastern currently sits in last place while Tennessee State is just a few games

ahead in sixth place.

Strength of schedule and the loss of junior pitcher Trish Sanders to injury has played a great part in the Panthers' dismal record.

"We have really struggled from changing up our pitching lineup," head coach Lloydene Searle said.

Eastern has played Tennessee Tech, Tennessee-Martin and SEMO so far in conference play, which are three of the top four teams in the OVC. The Panthers also played No. 25 Illinois, and almost pulled off an upset but fell 4-1 in extra innings.

"Some teams above and below us haven't played as tough a schedule as we have," Searle said. "We are playing some very good opponents and playing to where we can win it."

This could be the weekend the Panther pitchers win consecutive games for the

first time in over a month.

"In every aspect we seem to be settling in and now we have to go in and take advantage of (playing Tennessee State)," Searle said. "We certainly could pour it on."

The Tigers are hitting an OVC-low .181 and only have three players hitting above .200, with junior Alana Thomas leading the way with a .357 average. Sophomore Angela Huebner is right behind her hitting .347 and a team leading five home runs.

Eastern senior Kristen Becker will see the mound twice this weekend and is coming off a four-hit shutout victory Wednesday.

"I think what was really encouraging is Becker has worked so hard," Searle said. "She certainly pitched a great shutout. She was finally rewarded for her efforts."

TRACK & FIELD

# Panthers look to continue success at Western Illinois

By Michael Gilbert  
STAFF WRITER

After having success in its lone home meet of the season, Eastern's men's and women's track and field teams will be on the road again. This time the Panthers will head to Macomb for the 14th annual Lee Calhoun Memorial Invitation at Hanson Field Saturday.

Calhoun was Western's track and field coach from 1980 until his death in 1989. He won the 110-meter high hurdles in the 1956 and 1960 Olympics, becoming the only man to win the event in consecutive Olympics. Chicago State University, Northern Illinois University and the Bradley University women's team will be a few of the schools in attendance at the memorial meet.

"This meet is a chance to honor the memory of a tremendous family man, coach, friend and athlete in Mr. Calhoun," Mike Stevenson, head coach of the Western Illinois track and field program, said.

The Panther men will enter the meet on a roll. Eastern has won the first two meets of the outdoor season and assistant head coach John McInerney doesn't expect a letdown this weekend. However, he cautioned it's early in the season, and despite the early tri-

umph, the Ohio Valley Conference isn't won or lost until May.

"We're coming off a nice men's performance last week at the 'Big Blue Classic,'" McInerney said. "It's still early in the season and our concern is the end of April (because the Ohio Valley Conference Championship is coming up), but we are looking for a nice weekend."

After competing in the three-day "Big Blue Classic," which included the full slate of track and field competition, the meet at Western will not offer the long distance events. The 5,000-meter run and the 10,000-meter run are gone, which will cause seniors Jeff Jonaitis and Kyle O'Brien to run in unfamiliar territory.

"Jeff and Kyle will have to run in the 1,500-meters which isn't their best event," McInerney said. "They will get a break (from the longer distances) until we get closer to conference."

Freshman Jake Stout, coming off his best meet as a Panther when he finished second in the 3,000-meter steeplechase, will be unable to build on his success in the event. Stout has a slight foot injury and will not compete in the steeplechase. The Lockport Township graduate will still run in the shorter distances, according to McInerney.

The Panthers will count on their talented relay corps to make up points potentially lost due to injuries and lack of long distance events. Eastern won the 4x100-meter and the 4x400-meter relay and finished third in the 4x800-meter at the "Big Blue Classic." This was all accomplished without the services of Jarrod Macklin who competed only in one of the relays last week.

"To have won the 4x400 without Jarrod Macklin shows we have nice depth in the sprints," McInerney said. "In another week (sprinter) James Benson will be back to full strength so we will be in good shape."

The Panther women will go into the meet hoping to build on their performance at the Big Blue Classic. The women finished in the middle of the pack, but head coach Mary Wallace believed many positives were shown.

One of those positives was sophomore sprinter Elaine Hayes, who finished seventh in the 200-meter dash with a time of 25.73 seconds. The hope is Hayes, paired with standout Alicia Harris, will give the Panthers two serious threats in the sprints. That would suit Wallace just fine.

"When you look at conference, (Hayes) could really give us something to think about pairing her with Alicia," Wallace said.

"Hayes can do some things and is eager to do them."

Another Panther to look out for is senior thrower Tiffany Greenley. The Manteno native is coming off a third-place finish in the hammer throw and Wallace expects another solid performance this weekend.

"Tiffany is going to progress on a week-to-week basis," Wallace said. "She opened up well last week."

Eastern has faced steep competition during the first two meets and this weekend will be no different. Northern Illinois may be the best of bunch. The Huskies finished second out of 19 teams at the Chicagoland Championships held last week at North Central College.

Northern has a star sprinter in freshman Erica Smith and also boasts a solid relay team. Despite the talented competition, Wallace isn't looking at this meet from a win or loss perspective. She would like to see improvement from her team as they look toward the OVC Championships next month.

"We're putting athletes out to prepare for the conference championship," Wallace said. "No one team is a threat. We want to do the best we can and let the chips fall how they may."

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BASEBALL

# Panthers set sights on three-game sweep

By Jamie Hussey  
STAFF WRITER

Eastern prepares to face its second Ohio Valley Conference opponent of the season in a three-game series in a doubleheader Saturday at 1 p.m. and game three Sunday at 1 p.m. against Murray State at Coaches' Stadium.

The Racers (10-15, 1-1) split with Eastern Kentucky University last weekend and are coming off a loss against Louisville on Tuesday.

Murray State is 0-8 on the road this season, while Eastern is 8-3 at home.

Eastern (13-16, 1-2) is coming off a three-game winning streak beating non-conference teams Northern Illinois University and Olivet Nazarene and claiming one from conference foe Morehead State.

Head coach Jim Schmitz said senior pitchers Damon White and Matt Tyson will start in the doubleheader Saturday. The starter for Sunday will be junior pitcher Jared Marshall.

"White and Marshall had really good starts last weekend and that is what you need going into the weekend," Schmitz said.

"Tyson has had a flaw in his mechanics and we worked it out Thursday, so he is really excited about jumping on the mound, he is one of the biggest competitors and he is back to just letting it fly," he said.

In 2002, Eastern went 2-1 against Murray State in the regular season. Eastern also defeated

Matchup breakdown



**Murray State**  
(10-15, 1-1)

at



**Eastern Illinois**  
(13-16, 1-2)

WHEN: 1 p.m., Saturday (Doubleheader),  
1 p.m., Sunday  
WHERE: Coaches' Stadium  
EASTERN'S PROBABLE STARTERS:  
Damon White (2-2, 1.79 ERA)  
Matt Tyson (2-2, 6.25 ERA)  
Jared Marshall (3-1, 5.73)

Murray State in the OVC tournament semifinals. Senior pitcher Nathan Stone picked up the win, pitching 1 1/3 innings with two strikeouts.

"When we played them (Murray), I came in and we were down and we needed to put some zeros up on the board in defense," Stone said. "At our last at bat we won the game and we all rushed the field."

Stone said now the OVC season has started every game is important.

Senior catcher and co-captain Bret Pignatiello seems optimistic about the upcoming games against Murray.

"I think we have showed signs of life, previously in the season we have had our downs and ups," Pignatiello said. "We played well in the last three games and I think we are taking a turn for the better."



STEPHEN HAAS/ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR

Junior Andy Kuntz delivers a pitch against Olivet Nazarene University Wednesday afternoon at Coaches' Stadium.

Junior infielder and co-captain Nolan Cork said the pitching is strong and that its making a difference.

"We are coming into the week-end with strong pitching. White is doing really well and junior pitcher Jared Marshall did good in his

last round," Cork said.

"Our hitting has improved and everyone is going in really excited, we are all pushing for taking three out of three games against Murray State."

Schmitz said the mood for the team has been very positive.

"The mood with practices are good, everyone is getting a little closer and pulling for each other and we feel good about going into this weekend," Schmitz said.

"The mood seems really good and we are getting off to the start that we thought we would."

## Man wants to move a baseball team to Puerto Rico

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) -- Atlanta businessman Charles Vaughn says he has a plan and investors to buy a major league team and move it to Puerto Rico.

Island officials are wary of spending money to upgrading a stadium, especially since games in

the island's own professional league often play to empty seats.

Vaughn says he has Puerto Rican and U.S. investors ready to make an offer to the commissioner's office to buy either the Montreal Expos or another franchise. The Expos play 22 home games in San

Juan this season, starting Friday night against the New York Mets.

This Spanish-speaking island often bills itself as a bridge to Latin America, while its position as a U.S. territory would maintain any investment in U.S. dollars.


Puerto Rican officials say

they're concerned about the cost of building or renovating ballpark with a capacity of 40,000 or more.

"We are talking about a possible investment of over \$100 million ... I don't think there is mood for an investment of that nature at this time," said Puerto Rico's sport and

recreation secretary, Jorge Rosario.

Vaughn said he has talked with San Juan Mayor Jorge Santini and neighboring Carolina Mayor Jose Aponte about the possibility of renovating either city's stadium, at an estimated cost of \$150-200 million.



# FINALS EDITION

## May 5, 2003

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# SPORTS

Panther sports calendar	
FRIDAY	M/W Tennis vs. IUPUI-Ft. Wayne 2 p.m.
SATURDAY	Softball at Tennessee State (2) 1 p.m.
	Baseball vs. Murray State (2) 1 p.m.
	M/W Track at Western Illinois

## MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS



Junior C.J. Weber returns a serve during the No. 1 doubles match against Tennessee State Thursday. Weber and junior Brandon Blankenbaker won the doubles match 8-4 and Weber won his singles match 6-2, 6-0 despite suffering from the flu and tendinitis in his elbow.

STEPHEN HAAS/ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR

### Men's Results

	
<b>0</b> Tennessee State (0-10, 0-4)	<b>7</b> Eastern Illinois (7-6, 3-1)

**NO. 1 SINGLES:** Weber (EIU) def. Brown 6-2, 6-0. **NO. 2 SINGLES:** Blankenbaker (EIU) def. Meadows 6-2, 6-2. **NO. 3 SINGLES:** Pluta (EIU) def. White 6-2, 6-2. **NO. 4 SINGLES:** Priestner (EIU) def. Collier 6-1, 6-3. **NO. 5 SINGLES:** Girardin (EIU) def. Evans 6-0, 6-1. **NO. 6 SINGLES:** Sadler (EIU) def. Johnson 6-0, 6-0. **NO. 1 DOUBLES:** Blankenbaker/Weber (EIU) def. Brown/Meadows 8-4. **NO. 2 DOUBLES:** Priestner/Girardin (EIU) def. White/Collier 8-2. **NO. 3 DOUBLES:** Sadler/Pluta (EIU) def. Evans/Johnson 8-0.

### Women's Results

<b>0</b> Tennessee State (0-8, 0-3)	<b>7</b> Eastern Illinois (9-4, 3-1)
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**NO. 1 SINGLES:** Brunner (EIU) def. Rachael 6-2, 6-1. **NO. 2 SINGLES:** Lenfert (EIU) def. Oredugba 6-3, 6-3. **NO. 3 SINGLES:** Carlson (EIU) def. Goldthreate 6-0, 6-0. **NO. 4 SINGLES:** Freeman (EIU) def. Wilson 6-1, 6-0. **NO. 5 SINGLES:** Milosevic (EIU) def. Fair 6-2, 6-3. **NO. 6 SINGLES:** Wirtz (EIU) def. Starr 6-1, 6-3. **NO. 1 DOUBLES:** Lenfert/Brunner (EIU) def. Rachael/Oredugba 8-0. **NO. 2 DOUBLES:** Freeman/Carlson (EIU) def. Goldthreate/Wilson 8-1. **NO. 3 DOUBLES:** Wirtz/Koerner (EIU) def. Fair/Starr 8-2.

# Taming Tennessee State's Tigers



◆ *Men's, women's teams win every single match against Tennessee State*

Jason Blasco  
STAFF WRITER

Brian Holzgrafe  
"C.J. stepped it up to come out and put a decent set together. His ability to play that mental game has grown so much."

The Eastern men's and women's tennis team maintained their No. 1 ranking in the Ohio Valley Conference with a home victory over Tennessee State Thursday at Darling Courts. Eastern's men (7-6, 3-1) and women (9-4, 3-1) were able to control the entire match against the over-matched Tigers for a pair of 7-0 wins. Two of the Panther's men key players, No. 1 C.J. Weber and No. 3 Lukasz Pluta, battled injuries and illnesses to help their team defeat the Tigers (0-10, 0-4), the lowest-rated team in the OVC. Weber was battling the effects flu-

like symptoms as well as a case of tendinitis in the elbow. Pluta was sore from his previous match in Eastern's meet with Murray State last Saturday when he landed awkwardly. "I thought we played very well," Weber said. "It was good especially for a couple of guys who were struggling on the team. I think (during the match today) we were able to get a good win to gain momentum going into tougher matches in the future." Eastern head coach Brian Holzgrafe thought Weber was able to really elevate his level of play Thursday even though he has been battling nagging injuries. "C.J. stepped it up to come out and put a decent set together," Holzgrafe said. "His ability to play that mental game has grown so much. He was one of the most confident players on our team. It just so happens we are one of the lucky teams that has two or three

players that are confident." Weber along with No. 2 Brandon Blankenbaker combined in the No. 1 doubles match to defeat the Tigers' No. 1 combo of Jamaal Brown and John Meadows by a score of 8-4. It was the closest any of the Tigers doubles teams came to defeating the Panthers. Eastern's No. 2 team of Colin Priestner and Jason Girardin won 8-2 and the No. 3 team of Matt Sadler and Pluta shut out their opponents 8-0. The women's team paralleled the men's success. The Panthers women's team won every match and every set in both doubles and singles despite the absences of their No. 1 player Jana Matouskova. "This was an important win, especially for the girls," Holzgrafe said. "With the women's side being injured this is exactly the type of match that

we needed, a match with no pressure." Junior Becky Brunner stepped into Matouskova's tennis shoes for the No. 1 match against Tennessee State's Danette Rachael, earning a 6-2, 6-1 victory. The women's doubles teams had even more success than the men's. The three teams allowed the Tigers to win just three games in three matches. Brunner teamed with Amber Lenfert to win the No. 1 match 8-0, Sarah Freeman and Becky Carlson won the No. 2 match 8-1 and Jill Wirtz and Audra Koerner won 8-2. "The objective changes when you have a difference in level that is obvious and that is to win with class," Holzgrafe said. Eastern will host its next match Friday against Indiana-Purdue at Fort Wayne at 2 p.m. at Darling Courts.

## SO THERE!

A no-punches-pulled look at Eastern and national sports

## Whether it be a twister or volcano, natural disasters don't frighten Eastern

A twister, a twister — that's what happened to the University of Kansas. Or at least, it seems that way because the firing of the Kansas Athletic Director Al Bohl plays topsy-turvy. Basketball coach Roy Williams didn't directly fire Bohl, but his pressure and hard feelings played a key factor. Eastern director of athletics Rich McDuffie said he didn't know much about the Kansas Kilimanjaro volcano, but said such a scenario wouldn't happen at Eastern because the Big 12 Conference isn't even in the same mountain range as the Ohio Valley. "(For the Big 12), football and basketball have to be successful



Nate Bloomquist  
STAFF EDITOR  
to pay the bills," McDuffie said. "We can go 2-9 in football and we would be disappointed, but we don't rely on the football revenue nearly as much." Bohl was hot enough to spew molten rock. It went beyond money for him. "It is bad when a basketball coach can have the ability to hire and fire someone," Bohl told The Associated Press Wednesday. "There's no question I have been beaten up maliciously."

McDuffie said punches won't be thrown at Eastern any time soon — and they shouldn't be. There are no hard feelings between any Panther coaches and him. Most of the coaches at Eastern have intentions of staying here for a long time. They immediately seek no higher peak, like say North Carolina — a potential climb for Williams. "It's always good to have good people in positions who stay a long time," McDuffie said. "That's really what you always hope for." ◆ There's plenty of dissention among Eastern baseball ranks,



Rich McDuffie  
"It's always good to have good people in positions who stay a long time..."

and Panther manager Jim Schmitz wouldn't have it any other way. With Major League Baseball in full swing, debate among Panthers about which side of Chicago plays better baseball, or if the best team plays in St. Louis. Schmitz, a Cincinnati area native, makes the case for none of the above. He takes plenty of gruff from his players for supporting his team, but some of it was silenced after the Reds took two of three games from the North Siders last weekend. "It's nice to talk about something other than homework or the

weather during practice once the baseball season starts," Schmitz joked. "But it's just terrible I take a lot of stuff from Cubs fans. I just might even stop recruiting Chicago-area kids if it gets any more out of hand." So which team rules the Panther dugout roost? "I think we're pretty evenly divided for the Cardinals and the Cubs and there's a few scragglers who are for the Sox," said Cubs backer and Panther backstop Bret Pignatiello. "I'd say Cubs fans are the loudest though, because we always think we'll do well even though we suck every year." Who says Cubs fans are losers? They'd win at a loudest fan contest any day.





Joel Schumacher's film succeeds despite 95 percent of its scenes taking place in the booth itself.

★★★

Page 8B

## Celebrate free speech and artistic expression with Freedom Sings

**L**ET FREEDOM RING. CHECK THAT, LET FREEDOM SING. A GROUP OF MUSICIANS, WHO STRONGLY BELIEVE IN THE RIGHTS GUARANTEED TO AMERICANS BY THE FIRST AMENDMENT, WILL PERFORM A NUMBER OF SONGS THAT HAVE BEEN CENSORED OR BANNED BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS OR RADIO STATIONS AT 7 P.M. WEDNESDAY IN THE GRAND BALLROOM.

Freedom Sings was created by the Nashville-based First Amendment Center. Ken Paulson is executive director of the First Amendment Center and emcees the concert with narration about the background of the songs being featured and how they became censored or banned. Paulson hosts the PBS series "Speaking Freely" as well as writes columns on First Amendment issues. Freedom Sings executive producer Gene Policinski and Paulson both have newspaper backgrounds and are strong supporters of the First Amendment and freedom of speech.

In September 2000, the Freedom Sings inaugural concert was held at The Bluebird Café in Nashville. Many of the performers featured on the live recording will be appearing Saturday. In the live album's liner notes, Paulson notes that "From the battle over our national anthem (based on an English drinking song) to the banning of rock to controversies over rap, the meaning behind the music has provoked both censorship and suppression."

Among the musicians who will be performing Wednesday as part of The Freedom Sings band include Grammy award winning songwriter, guitarist Don Henry and Grammy nominated guitarist Bill Lloyd. Henry won for co-writing Kathy Mattea's "Where've You Been" and Lloyd was nominated for his work with Rodney Foster in their group Foster and Lloyd. The group also played the Grand Ole Opry and Country Music Awards.

Singers Jonell Mosser and Shonka Durkreh will contribute their vocals to the performance and guitarist Will Kimbrough and drummer Craig Krampf will add their talents. Singer-songwriter Jason White is also slated to perform his song "Red Ragtop," which country music giant Tim McGraw recorded.

The Midwest college portion of The Freedom Sings tour starts Tuesday in Muncie, Ind. at Ball State University. Policinski said the group hoped to perform at schools offering concentrations in journalism or mass communication, calling them natural allies to their cause, but they weren't limiting their stops to only those schools.

Every year, Policinski said, the

First Amendment Center conducts a survey they call the state of the First Amendment. Their most recent survey, and their first conducted post 9/11, showed that 49 percent thought the First Amendment goes too far.

"We want to know why Americans feel that way," Policinski said. "Our goal is to educate Americans about the First Amendment and free expression."

Policinski added that most people don't realize the First Amendment guarantees more than just freedom of speech and religion. Just as the leadoff hitter sets the table for the rest of the lineup to follow on a baseball team, the First Amendment is the catalyst of The Bill of Rights and Constitution. It protects freedom of speech, religion, the press, assembly and petition of government.

"All freedoms hang together and most Americans can't name all five," Policinski said. "Freedom Sings is a way to reach out to people, it's entertaining and makes people think."

Policinski said the touring group attempts to tailor the shows to certain groups, most commonly older, professional groups and in this case college students and professors. Just like any touring band, Freedom Sings likes to mix up there set lists but the live album gives insight into what songs may be performed.

Pete Seeger's "Where Have All the Flowers Gone?" became a popular anthem amongst anti-war groups in the '60s and while the liner notes include the fact that the song was never banned, much of Seeger's work was hampered by Congress questioning him about what they deemed un-American activities.

Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young recorded Neil Young's "Ohio" not long after four Kent State University students protesting the Vietnam War were killed by the National Guard in the Spring of 1970.

Merle Haggard's "Okie From Muskogee" appeared on the soundtrack for Oliver Stone's 1986 Academy Award winning film "Platoon." The liner notes from the

SEE FREEDOM ♦ Page 4B

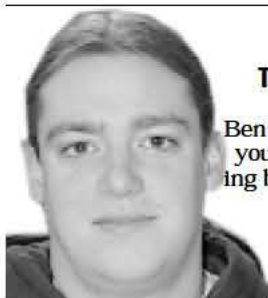


Middle: Guitarist Jason White belts out vocals. Look for White to perform his song "Red Ragtop" which Tim McGraw has recorded. Bottom: The Freedom Sings Band from left: White, Shonka Durkreh, Jonell Mosser, Don Henry and Bill Lloyd

PHOTOS BY ERIC ROWLEY, IOWA STATE DAILY



BY BEN TURNER / VERGE EDITOR



### THE FAVORITE FIVE

Ben Turner gives you five classes you might want to consider taking before your time at Eastern is finished.

Page 2B

### RED BULL TOUR

Three Ohio based products with distinctly different sounds roll into town Saturday for a show at Friends & Co.

Page 3B

### ALBUM REVIEWS

The Ataris may have broken through to mainstream audiences with "So Long Astoria," but they brought mediocrity with them.

Page 6B

### CONCERT CALENDAR

Bleed, The Slurs, 7-Day Run, 56 Hope Road and Earthfest all offer live music this weekend.

Page 8B



## THE FAVORITE FIVE

## Classes at Eastern



Ben Turner  
Verge editor

He is also a senior journalism major.

Contact him at  
eiuverge@hotmail.com

While I have obtained something from every class I've taken at Eastern, I have enjoyed attending some more than others. The amount of homework the professor hands out also plays a factor in the enjoyment level of a class. Being in communications here at Eastern, homework really sucks. Simply because you have to find time to do the regular weekly activities like rock shows on WEIU FM, interviewing people and writing stories and getting the work done because you're on the hook for them all. These are the classes I have enjoyed most during my four years and a summer at Eastern.

5. SOC 2780 Deviant Behavior. Summer '02, instructor: Dr. Reed Benedict — This was the hardest one to choose as I also really enjoyed Jazz and Rock with jazz musician Keith Javors my freshman year and Magazine Editing with Dr. Mary Wohlrabe my junior year. Deviant Behavior gets the spot because of Dr. Benedict. The class met Monday through Friday at 8 a.m. Benedict had just come back from a month-long field trip in The Netherlands with about 30 or so sociology majors (lucky bastards) about a month earlier. So upon returning to a very uneventful Charleston, after being in Europe, Benedict could have taken off the rest of the summer and gone through the motions. Instead, he made each morning's class interesting and relevant. We discussed why American justice is messed up and other flaws with America in general. While I was barely awake every morning, Benedict showed up energized and ready to share his worldly knowledge with my class which probably only had a baker's dozen worth of students signed-up.

4. SPC 3530 Film Communication. Spring '03, instructor: Joe Heumann — I guess I waited until the very end to take this pretty popular course. While many students go in with the expectations that they are going to watch movies and talk about them, mine were a little different. For those of you that don't already know, Heumann is the man that basically made WEIU FM what it is today. He firmly believed in the college radio format I have grown to love so much and sacrificed himself when word surfaced about Eastern wanting to change the station's format. I began working at WEIU FM after his time and thus I knew of him but I really didn't know him. Film Comm. has given me a chance to experience his wit, knowledge and perhaps most entertaining-sarcasm— first hand. He has showed us all sorts of films I never would have seen otherwise. Just as WEIU FM has broadened my musical horizons, Film Comm has done the same for my film tastes.

3. FCS 1120 Food Preparation. Spring '03, instructor: Susan Rippy — There's no such thing as a free lunch, except in what I like to call cooking class. While most people laugh when I tell them about my second-semester-senior-year-slacker-schedule, this class was recommended to me by an acquaintance on one drunken night this summer. What he told me about the class that night turned out to be true — I'm going to let the cat out of the bag now — it only meets one day a week. It's true. You show up for lab on either Tuesday or Thursday and everything else is done Online. Just the class I was looking for so I could devote as many hours as possible to The Verge and WEIU FM. There was quite the collective buzz around the crowded classroom on the first day of class when my inside tip was confirmed. We make stuff in pairs typically, but guess who usually eats most of whatever we make? And guys, you know how Eastern has a larger female population than male? This is especially true in FCS classes. Oh yeah, one other thing, two of the women in my lab happened to be in the wet t-shirt contest at Stix last month.

2. JOU 3953 Sports and Media. Fall '01, instructor: Howard Price — How can any guy who follows sports just a little bit not like this class? Although Price takes atten-

dance and makes you do two book reports, he rewards those who get their ass out of bed on Fridays. While this class is heavily male dominated, it's about sports; just as the course title suggests, Price touches on two of the aspects of American culture that I love so much. From the early sports writers and broadcasters to more contemporary figures, Sports and Media does something that I respect greatly — teaches you about those that were influential in the early days of American sport and why you should know who they are. I'll be the first to admit that our generation falls flat in the area of respect for our elders and those who walked the walk before we could even begin to try and talk the talk. Price knows the names behind the games and this was my favorite lecture course I've had at Eastern.

1. JOU 3701/JOU 3702 Online Journalism. Fall '02, instructors: Dr. James Tidwell and Brian Poulter — I learned more from this class than any other I've had at Eastern. Dr. Tidwell's portion of the class meets the first half of the semester and discusses what happening in the world of Online journalism and what you need to know to stay competitive. Dr. Tidwell keeps the course up-to-date as the landscape of the Internet is constantly changing. I have a great deal of respect for any professor who changes the way their course is taught every semester. Where I learned the most though was in the lab portion of the class taught by Poulter. At the start of the semester I didn't have any idea what html was much less how to even begin to design a website. Not only did Poulter make me efficient with Dreamweaver, but along with his News Photography course, also gave me a working knowledge of Photoshop 7 so I could create graphics for my pages and Verge covers. This class got me the gig as Webmaster of the Journalism website too— proving it is the class I enjoyed most during my time at Eastern.

## More Favorite Fives:

Matt Rennels, senior journalism major  
5. MUS 2557 Jazz and Rock  
4. SOC 3620 Research Methods  
3. SOC 3620 Research Methods (We think Rennels took it twice, hmmm?)  
2. JOU 4760 Advanced Pub Design  
1. ENG 1001 Comp and Language

Ben Erwin, junior journalism major  
5. ECN 2800 Economic Social Issues  
4. ESC 1400 Weather and Climate  
3. EIU 4192 Film and Society  
2. ENG 2003 Creative Writing, poetry  
1. JOU 3702 Online Journalism lab

Colin McAuliffe, junior history major  
5. HIS 3210 History of the Middle East  
4. ESC 1490 Weather and Climate  
3. HIS 2020 US history since 1877  
2. JOU 3001 News Photography  
1. INT 3123 Industrial Photography

Next week's topic: Band's you've seen PLAY in Charleston. E-mail your favorite five to [eiuverge@hotmail.com](mailto:eiuverge@hotmail.com) or drop off your picks at the newsroom, 1811 Buzzard Hall, by Wednesday.

Do you an idea that you think would make a good favorite five? Do you feel strongly about your picks and want to write a column? Have you scene a movie or discovered an album recently that you think more students should know about? Let us know were always on the lookout for more staff writers, columnists and movie/music critics.

Also next week's issue will be Ben Turner's last as Verge editor. Do you like the Favorite Five column? Should the next Verge staff keep it or get rid of it? What do you think the Verge should strive to do next year to make it a better publication.

Don't just sit, complaining gets you no where. Express your opinions, E-mail us at [eiuverge@hotmail.com](mailto:eiuverge@hotmail.com) and tell us what you think. Feedback from students, staff or faculty makes our day.

New music on WEIU FM 88.9

Hip-Hop (9-12 Friday and Saturday)

♦ Jay Z — "Excuse Me Miss" remix

♦ LL Cool J — "Amazing"

Jazz (afternoons until 5 p.m.)

♦ Chieli Miancci — Night Grooves

♦ Deanna Witkowski — Wide Open Window

Rock (5-9 p.m. daily)

♦ The Murder City Devils — R.I.P (Live album!!!!)

♦ Yo la Tengo — Summer Sun

♦ Single Fram Ashtray — Burn Radio Airtest

♦ Lagwagon — Blaze

♦ Panthers — Lets Get Serious

Panther Baseball and Softball are on WEIU FM

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1. Linkin Park — Meteora

2. 50 Cent — Get Rich or Die Tryin'

3. The White Stripes — Elephant

4. R. Kelly — Chocolate Factory

5. Ben Harper — Diamonds on the Inside

6. Audioslave — S/T

7. Jackass DVD

8. Sean Paul — Dutty Rock

9. John Mayer — Any Given Thursday

10. 8 Mile — DVD

♦ Don't forget Positivley Fourth Street Records also sells releases from local and independent artists.

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# Red Bull tour offers three Ohio bands with a variety of sounds

By Ben Turner  
VERGE EDITOR

The Party of Helicopters will cruise into town Saturday for a show with their Ohio brethren Disengage. Sponsored by Red Bull, the tour stops at Friends & Co. where the bands hope to expand their fan bases with distinctive sounds that are quite unlike one another despite the bands geographical similarity.

The Party of Helicopters released its third full-length "Please Believe It" Tuesday. The band's first record with the Atlanta-based Velocette Records, guitarist Jaime Stillman said this was the band's first experience signing to what he called a functioning label.

Having created a buzz for themselves around the Atlanta area with a sound that blends multiple genres and prefers not to fall into the garage rock catch-all, Stillman said crowds and the press around Atlanta have always been good to the band and thus he wasn't really surprised when Velocette came calling.

Kicking off its current two month tour with an appearance at the Velocette showcase at the South by Southwest music festival in Austin, Texas, the band toured their way through the Southeast before taking a two week break at the end of March. The second leg of the tour kicked off yesterday in Ann Arbor, Mich.

"We like to tour, but we also like Cleveland and Columbus; we play there often," Stillman said. "Kent used to have a better scene. There's still a handful of punk and indie bands but a lot of venues shut down."

Stillman said most of the band members have been friends since their high school days in Kent, Ohio although PoH wasn't a project that surfaced until moving on to Kent State University. Stillman was a veteran of the Kent scene, having played drums in Harriet the Spy as were his fellow bandmates frontman Joe Dennis and original drummer John Finley who were part of The Man I Fell in Love With.

"The Party of Helicopters was a side project then we started touring, people seemed to like it and we made a conscious decision to concentrate on the band's sound," Stillman said.

Bassist Ryan Brannon and current drummer Cory Race also are keys to the quartet's current lineup.

Velocette has tossed around quite a few big names in trying to describe their newest signee. How a band can have elements of Big Black, The F\*\*king Champs and My Bloody Valentine and still stand and play is intriguing. Stillman, on the other hand, described the band as Unwound, Black Sabbath and Iron Maiden. Velocette doesn't want to call them the next big thing even if "Spin"

named PoH's 2000 release "Mt. Forever" one of the Top 20 Records of the Year.

The group's unique name comes from the band's days on the campus of Kent State. Stillman said a military display on campus by the same name is what inspired the moniker. While many people might think of Chrissy Hyde when they think of Kent State and shooting of 1970, Stillman said they get asked more about misunderstood new wave rockers, Devo.

Disengage offers a loud and aggressive sound the band compares to a combination of Led Zeppelin and Black Flag. Hailing from Cleveland, Disengage looked to separate itself from the rap-rock sound that was beginning to become overly popular among loud bands around the quartet's formation in 1995.

Comprised of Jason Byers on vocals, Jacob Cox on guitar, Sean Bilovecky on bass and Jonathan Morgan on drums, the band's first two recordings including their debut full-length, "Teeth, Heart and Tail" were released on Cambodia Recordings but much like Champaign's Tummler, Disengage's members had their eyes set on the pinnacle of labels that released up-and-coming loud rock and metal bands, Man's Ruin Records.

"It was really good experience; Man's Ruin opened us up to a lot more people," Morgan said. "It was easier to get shows and kind of



PHOTO BY AND COURTESY OF DANIELLE LEVITT

The Kent, Ohio, based The Party of Helicopters

branded us with instant status."

In early 1999 the band released "Obsessions Become Phobias" on the San Francisco label but it went bankrupt shortly thereafter. This summer it will be re-released with new artwork and multimedia features by Rise Above and Black Phoenix Records in Europe. Morgan called Rise Above the European equivalent of Man's Ruin and he said the band was looking forward to hopefully touring Europe later this year.

Morgan said Disengage has the material for the next album written and are in the process of looking for a domestic label on which to release it.

Like PoH, Disengage also made the trip to Austin for SXSW. They performed as part of a free, twelve-band show at Austin's pre-

mier hard rock venue Emo's. The show was coined Derek Hess Strhessfest and because of a crowded lineup, Disengage drew a 1:45 p.m. stage slot.

The band said on its Web site it was somewhat skeptical about the early start time but supposedly lines out the door with patrons numbering in triple-digits eased their worries. The band also notes that former Black Flag and Circle Jerks frontman Keith Morris was in the audience and upon meeting the band after the show gave the Cleveland-quartet gas money.

Red Bull will sponsor the tour which wraps on Disengage's home turf April 19 at the Cleveland venue The Agora. The Cleveland-based quartet Soloflyer will open Saturday's 10 p.m. show at Friends and the show will have a \$4 cover.

# Marrakech newest business to call Lincoln Avenue home

By Karen Kirr  
EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR

Sandwiched between a crop of stores in the prime strip mall across from Old Main on Lincoln Avenue, new vintage store Marrakech offers students merchandise ranging from chic contemporary fashions to imported and casual clothing.

Owners Chuck and Connie Schwartz deliberated quite a bit before buying out the commercial space previously occupied by The Other Side, a boutique gift shop. Schwartz emphasized the decision to open Marrakech (pronounced Mara-cash-ink) was not by far a split-second one.

"We thought about it for about a year," he said.

The couple, which also owns and operates two other Marrakech stores in Champaign and West Lafayette, Ind.

opted to purchase the space after Chuck Schwartz toured the area and weighed the benefits of operating a business in Charleston.

"I saw a lot of people traveling down Lincoln Avenue," Schwartz said. "I talked to a realtor who told me about this place. I said 'from what I see ... this looks like a really good location.'"

One might wonder why the Schwartzes would consider opening a business in Charleston, which has seen plenty of store closings along Lincoln Avenue in the past few years, including fast food chains Hardees and Long John Silvers. Although not all businesses may be easily thriving in Charleston, Schwartz doesn't have worries about his new store.

"If you're the only store in town (offering certain items), you're

going to get most of the business," he said.

Charleston's smaller population was one of the things the Schwartz said was alluring as well.

"We had been thinking about it for a while and the West Lafayette store is doing OK, not great though. We thought we would try a smaller market where there is not as much competition," he said.

What may be baffling to many students is the unorthodox name of the apparel store, which targets young female shoppers more so than males, Schwartz said. Marrakech originated in Champaign, and it got its name from the former owners who were of Pakistani descent, he said.

Schwartz said when he purchased the store the name stuck. The previous owners named

the business Marrakech after a town in Morocco, he said.

Originally, the couple was anticipating opening the shop in August, but because the location had been vacated for some time, they decided to open the business March 27.

"Everything just evolved," Schwartz said. "We have some new stuff from the West Lafayette and Champaign stores. I didn't spend a lot of money. Everything was very inexpensive."

Schwartz said he also had the luxury of having his brother-in-law install the dressing rooms at the location for a discounted price.

"It is amazing how it has come along," he said. And although Schwartz doesn't have the space to display all the items he would prefer in the tight space, he said it is a perfect size for his business.

Schwartz, a native of Champaign, whose grandfather spearheaded the store Kaufman's in Champaign before selling it in 1968, sees a bright future ahead for his clothing store.

"This is the kind of store where word of mouth is how people find out about it," he said. "We've had a lot of lookers. This community doesn't have this kind of stuff."

In the longterm, Schwartz said he, ideally, would like to sell the Charleston business, perhaps in five or six months, and retain a 20 percent ownership of the operation while still doing all the troubleshooting work. This would include providing the store with its merchandise and taking care of various things involved with the behind-the-scene aspects of the store.



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LIVE MUSIC ROUND-UP

# Earthfest offers four-band lineup Saturday in Library quad

By Kelly McCabe  
ASSOCIATE VERGE EDITOR

Saturday, Earth Club will be holding Earthfest 2003 in honor of Earth Day. The festival will take place from 2 to 6 p.m. in the library quad. "It (the festival) is in celebration of Earth Day, but we had to do it because of the Counting Crows," Earth Club member Tanya Gibson said.

The name of the festival has been changed from last year's Peacefest. Earth Club president Kelly Bryan said, "In the past they had Peacefest. We wanted to change the name because we didn't want to sound anti-war."

The festival will feature four bands, speakers, and food. Local bands Fadproof, Edison's Medicine, Labelled, and Ryan Groff will all be performing.

Labelled, one of the bands, will be playing a cover or two, but will be playing mostly originals. "We're gonna cover an STP song, Plush," said Dan Wychocki of Labelled. Labelled consists of Wychocki on vocals and drums, and his brother Jonathan on vocals and guitar.

When asked about Labelled's style of music, Wychocki said, "that's why we're called Labelled, we don't want to be labelled."

Bryan said that in between each performance, there will be a speaker. She will speak on behalf of Earth Club, Jeremy Pelzer will speak for the Green Party, and Jen Price will speak for the Fair Trade Coalition.

Pizza Hut will also be on hand selling pizza, and there will also be booths with information on Earth

Club, ways to help the earth, and the Green Party, Gibson said.

♦ *Bleed, The Slurs bring their rowdy stage shows back to town Friday*

By Ben Turner  
VERGE EDITOR

Friends & Co. has seen quite a few bands roar through rowdy sets this school year but two of the bands with perhaps the most intense stage shows, Bleed and The Slurs, will play together Friday night.

Bleed opened for The Riptones during the late show of November's Turkey Testicle Festival. Some patrons believed the Milwaukee trio blew The Riptones away. The band's grungy garage sound has been heavily influenced by The Sonics and Elvis.

After releasing its 2000 effort "Motor Psycho" on MuSick Record, the band is shopping their new material to labels for a new full-length.

Perhaps the most unique aspect of the trio is drummer Bart Ferrara's stand-up style. The band's frontline of frontman and guitarist Bob Merkt and bassist David Bauman provide much of the band's in-your-face stage presence.

Although Bleed may draw the headlining spot of Friday's line-up, the group may have its work cutout for itself following the Indianapolis quintet, The Slurs.

After energizing an otherwise mellow audience on the Saturday of

Homecoming, The Slurs finally got their opportunity to play a full set when they opened for The Greenhornes in January.

The Slurs, in Bleed-like fashion, delivered a performance The Greenhornes simply couldn't follow. Much of this is due to the fact that Slurs' frontman Justin Allen isn't tied down by guitar duties and can be a true frontman in the same sense as Jim Morrison or Zack De La Rocha.

The Slurs draw heavily on influences like The Dead Boys and The New York Dolls in creating the group's glam-ish garage rock. Dual guitarists Jim Kuczkowski and Nick Prior are joined by bassist Chris Messer and drummer Brad Wallace backing up Allen.

If you're into roaring guitars and loud, intense Midwest bands, Friends' Friday night lineup is right up your alley. Doors at 10 p.m. with a \$2 cover.

♦ *56 Hope Road leads back to The Uptowner*

One of the most musically diverse bands to play The Uptowner this semester, 56 Hope Road, will return to town for a Saturday night performance.

Drawing their name from the address of Bob Marley's home/friends' hangout in Jamaica following his national exposure throughout the northern hemisphere, 56 Hope Road draws on influences like Medeski, Martin and Wood and Phish. The Chicago-based quintet has described their

sound as "acoustic hip-hop sex rock."

"Our lyrics can be political and fun, but we mainly want it to be something that is danceable. Something that people can groove with is good," frontman and guitarist Steve Goviea said prior to the band's last Charleston appearance.

Goviea shares vocal responsibilities with his fellow guitarist Dave Hamilton. Keyboardist Steven Mann adds a unique element to the band's sound and bassist Chad Sanders and Greg Fundis make up the rhythm section.

The band supports live recordings of their shows and, in the future, hopes to make live bootlegs available via their Web site. 56 Hope Road's debut album, "All Points Connect," is also available via their site and through some corporate and independent record stores throughout in the Midwest.

In May 56 Hope Road will play the Second Annual SpringFest at the University of Cincinnati. The impressive lineup will also include The Roots, North Mississippi All Stars and Ben Kweller.

Doors at 10 p.m. with a \$2 cover.

♦ *Art and music join forces Saturday at Jackson Avenue Coffee*

Jackson Avenue Coffee will open its doors to art and music Saturday night. Local artist Steve Eyer will display a collection of his 2-D oil paintings for a silent auction. Eyer's friend Leeroy Jones will pro-



PHOTO COURTESY OF PUNKROCK-NIGHT.COM

Slurs frontman Justin Allen

vide acoustic music, which Jones called country blue-folk.

Eyer said he graduated from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale with a bachelors of fine arts in industrial design. He works at Just Right in Mattoon and paints for fun and as a side project.

Eyer and Jones are both from Olney originally. Dustin Stiemann will accompany Jones on their two sets of music.

Jones said he plays guitar but also provides percussion via a steel military can. He said he would also perform a harmonica number as well. Stiemann meanwhile will play an acoustic bass.

The art showcase and acoustic music will be on display from 7 to 9 p.m. at Jackson Avenue Coffee and will be free to all patrons who wish to attend.

## Freedom: songs by Elvis and Merle Haggard will most likely be featured

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

live album present the fact that "this song became an anthem for the 'silent majority' and Richard Nixon invited Haggard to sing at the White House." These songs may be featured in a Vietnam War medley because the medley will include pro and anti-war sentiments.

Songs dealing with civil rights that became the eye of censors like 1965's "Eve of Destruction" which became "a highly commercial protest song complaining about the condition of the world," will also be featured. Better known songs that were censored because they were said to inspire violence like Bob Dylan's "Blowin' in the Wind" and The Rolling Stones "Street Fighting Man" were also featured on the live

album.

Elvis Presley getting shot strictly from the waist up during one of his performances on The Ed Sullivan Show is well documented. Perhaps less well-known though is the fact that two of Elvis's other songs 1954's "Good Rockin' Tonight" and 1969's "In the Ghetto" were both considered objectionable because, as the liner notes state, "Elvis was rarely censored."

The rest of the live show Wednesday will include multi-media presentations of Hoyt Axton's "The Pusher" and Public Enemy's "Fight the Power." Steppenwolf recorded "The Pusher" in the late '60s.

Although the song is actually an "attack on hard-drugs" the song was criticized for the line "God damn the pusher." The liner notes state that local officials in Winston-Salem, N.C. ordered Steppenwolf to not use the lyric in concert so the band had the crowd sing it instead. Steppenwolf frontman and guitarist John Kay performed the song live at The Freedom Sings premier. The



ERIC ROWLEY/IOWA STATE DAILY

Ken Paulson will provide the stories behind most of the songs featured.

live performers may also feature this song in the drug medley.

Public Enemy scared numerous conservatives in the late '80s with their black-power politics. "Fight the Power" perhaps created more of a buzz than some of their other album cuts because as the liner notes point out, Spike Lee using the

song in his film "Do the Right Thing" and Chuck D saying rap was "America's black TV station" didn't help Public Enemy's appearance in the eyes of censors and government officials.

Without a doubt what was once considered indecent 30 years ago pales in comparison to some things

said and written by artists in the first part of the 21st Century. Just as a society's ethics can change over time so does the nation's ability to tolerate certain styles of speech that the majority of Americans might disagree with. Perhaps America's skin has become a little thicker but more likely free speech has progressed and allowed current artists to set new standards for what can be considered offensive.

"At one time, rock 'n' roll was viewed by many as offensive and some people tried to suppress it," Polcinski said. "What will people think 20 or 25 years from now about our current music? We're here to protect all art forms and free expression."

The Champaign News Gazette will co-sponsor the Freedom Sings concert Wednesday in the Grand Ballroom at 7 p.m. The concert will be free to everyone and concertgoers who take an active role in the show will be rewarded with a promotional CD of the inaugural Freedom Sings concert.

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## ALBUM REVIEWS

# Philosophical 'Hearts of Oak' from Ted Leo/Pharmacists

By Kelly McCabe  
ASSOCIATE VERGE EDITOR

Ted Leo and his backing band, The Pharmacists, are back with a new album, "Hearts of Oak," released on Lookout! Records. Leo made a name for himself as an influential member of NYC's hardcore scene in the late '80s, and later for fronting the Washington D.C. band Chisel.

The ties to that hardcore scene do not make themselves apparent in this release. "Hearts of Oak" is full of catchy pop tunes that you would want to sing along with, if you could only decipher the words.

While the songs sound so poppy and light-hearted, the lyrics are far from it.

On Lookout!'s website, Leo was quoted saying, "I consider myself a perpetual English major, but I also get into bar fights."

The English major in him shows through, as his lyrics are often confusing. It seems like Leo tries way too hard to be symbolic and philosophical, and it comes off unnaturally.

The second track, "Where Have all the Rude Boys Gone," is an homage to interracial ska-punk bands such as The Specials.

Hatred and prejudice are a recurring theme on "Hearts of Oak" as "The Ballad of the Sin Eater" is also about the presence of hatred across the world. "Sin Eater" is evidently a protest to U.S. foreign policy, which Leo feels strongly about.

Death makes its appearance on the album in the tracks "I'm a Ghost" and "Dead Voices." "Dead Voices" is about how we speak differently of people after they're gone.

Its theme is dark and its lyrics



"Hearts of Oak"  
Ted Leo/Pharmacists

★★★

complicated, but this album is enjoyable. Even though the lyrics are incredibly dark, the songs are catchy and infectious. Ted Leo/Pharmacists' "Hearts of Oak" is a good album worthy of its underground success.

♦ *Saturday Looks Good to Me draws on retro music for new album*

By Ben Erwin  
ONLINE EDITOR

Pilfering a sound from the garage rock of the '60s along with elements of '50s song structure and mellow delivery, Saturday Looks Good to Me seem to desperately be clamoring for the crown left untended by the demise of Belle and Sebastian.

With "All Your Summer Songs," the group delivers palatable but bland pop tunes that make for perfect background music to a lazy Sunday afternoon. Recreating

sounds reminiscent of The Mama's and the Papa's mixed with '60s era Phil Spector, "Saturday Looks Good to Me" is a great misnomer of a title as almost all of the tunes are sappy, plodding tripe much more suited to melancholy than anything else.

"Untitled" kicks off the album with mellow, organ inflected groove beneath breathy singing. Setting the somber tone for the album, the echoey and jangly "Ambulance" and the bell-tinged "Caught" follow.

Providing rare moments of levity are tracks like Reverb-drenched "Meet Me by the Water" and organ drones and saxophone of "Underwater Heartbeat."

Most of the material appears rather sparse as the album's title track kicks off with lone piano accompaniment while the group's two members harmonize in perfect thirds alongside the airy piano play. Likewise, the delicate strumming of "Delicate Hour" add to the Spartan aesthetic as a lone guitar jangles alongside a kick drum and snare.

On rare occasions, the band even



"All Your Summer Songs"  
Saturday Looks Good to Me

★★★

manages to rock between moments of pop harmonizing and sparse arrangements. On "Alcohol," the group utilizes thin, buzzy guitars perfectly as upbeat harmonies bubble atop the mid-tempo, distorted, guitar. It is in these moments that the band's full potential is fully realized as musicianship, style and reckless abandon come together for brief moments of greatness unencumbered by sappy lyrics or trite delivery.

While groups like The White Stripes and a slew of others are coping their sound from '60s with a guitar-fueled vengeance, Saturday Looks Good to Me are taking a mellower road with mixed results. With polished harmonies and just enough grime to retain their indie credibility, the band looks poised to spread another wave of '50s and '60s grooves over radio airwaves.

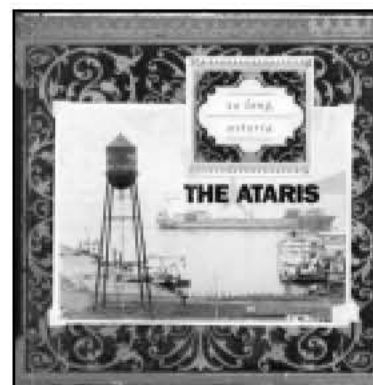
♦ *'So Long' credibility, hello mediocrity*

By Ben Erwin  
ONLINE EDITOR

Riding the musical wave created by the likes of Jimmy Eat World, Simple Plan, New Found Glory and a plethora of marginally talented, uncreative hacks combining punk(ish) rhythms and guitar lines with emo whining, The Ataris' latest, "So Long, Astoria," is a tepid but tolerable album showcasing the worst in pop punk and emo.

"Astoria" finds the usually amusing Ataris playing one of two roles – mediocre pop punk band and trite, sappy emo outfit. In both cases, the band sounds unoriginal, uninteresting and forced.

On the poppler side, songs like the album's title track, "Takeoffs



"So Long, Astoria"  
The Ataris

★★

and Landings" and the radio-friendly "In This Diary" capitalize on bubbling melodies and loud soft delivery made famous by many a third (or fourth) generation punk group.

On the emo side, the band spews forth jangly guitar lines on "My Reply," sappy melancholy on "Unopened Letter to the World," and a mellow, piano accompaniment on the punk ballad "The Saddest Song." Even the song titles are generic and laughable as songs like "The Hero Dies in this One" and "I Won't Spend Another Night Alone" blend the band's nauseating sound with recycled lyrics and cliché melodies.

Although the album isn't entirely unlistenable, everything on "Astoria" seems forced and generic as The Ataris eschew creativity for poorly done retreads of punk and emo. There's very few palatable punk bands receiving press lately and The Ataris only add to the sea of mediocrity permeating the punk and emo scenes with each easily disposable track on "So Long, Astoria."

## Figure skating comedian at 7th Street Underground

By Jennifer Chiariello  
ACTIVITIES EDITOR

Comedian Danielle Broussard will perform stand up comedy Friday at 7th Street Underground.

Broussard's comedy ranges from typical figure skating stereotypes and going to a college at a religious institution to her lack of success with the male species, a press release stated.

Broussard has recently performed on Conan O'Brien and had an article written about her present comedy and past figure skating career in New York Newsday, the press release stated. She has performed sketches for Nick at Nite and World News Now, playing Monica Lewinsky, and has skated on The Today Show.

According to the press release, Broussard works the college circuit

regularly and she is a regular act at The Comedy Cellar, Boston Comedy Club and the World Famous Comic Strip Live.

Bill Welter, University Board Comedy Coordinator, said, "We've been having a really great turnout. The last show over 500 people came out. We hope we have another great turn out like that again."

"We'd like to bring more female comedians here at Eastern. There

aren't that many female comedians out there," Welter said.

"She has a great record of where she has performed," Welter said. "She's one of the more seasoned performers on the college circuit."

The University Board has brought a total of eight comedians to campus this semester, Welter said. There will be two more comedic performances this semester later in April and possibly in the

first week of May.

"If we get a lot of support from students coming out we will try to get comedians for every Friday," Welter said.

The event is sponsored by the University Board.

The comedic performance will begin at 9 p.m. Friday at 7th Street Underground. The performance is open to the public and admission will be free.

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## ALBUM REVIEWS

# 'Revolutions' provides inspiration for those who Rise Against

By Ben Turner  
VERGE EDITOR

This must be an inspirational time to be part of a punk band with politics at your core. With everything going on in the world, both stateside and in the Middle East, there's plenty to disagree with in terms of America's domestic and foreign policies.

From the Chicago suburb of Arlington Heights comes Chicago's premier poly-punk band, Rise Against. With Chicago punk-rock pedigrees accompanying the band's formation, San Francisco's Fat Wreck Chords quickly scooped up the band featuring former members of Baxter (frontman and guitarist Tim McIlrath) and 88 Fingers Louie (bassist Joe Principe).

After their successful 16-song debut "The Unraveling" on Fat, Rise Against is back with "Revolutions Per Minute."

While McIlrath's lyrics perhaps don't place the band's collective hearts on their sleeves like other poly-punk outfits like Propagandhi or Fifteen, from their name to their driving dual guitars Rise Against is confused and upset with the way most Americans aimlessly walk through life and the band isn't afraid to put their bewilderment into song.

Kicking off "Revolutions Per Minute" with "Black Masks and Gasoline," Rise Against sets the tone for the 12 songs to follow. McIlrath doesn't understand where a female friend "got this idea so deeply engrained in your head that this world's something that you must impress" and rather tells us "a need for a revolution's rising" in what he calls "our rotting nation."

"Dead Ringer" is a short and punchy number in which Rise Against races through a half-dozen verses about not being able to go home again in a minute-and-a-half. "Like the Angel," on the other hand, relies heavily on the song's title to transition from verse to refrain with probably the catchiest end-result.

Swirling guitar riffs from Todd Mohney starts off "Voices Off Camera." Dealing with running from one's problems, the refrain spirals itself into the song's conclusion ending on somewhat of a down note.

"Our buildings have fallen, our walls are all caved in and we can't comprehend the sad state that



we're in," are the opening lines of "Broken English." The band's opinion of the state of our union doesn't get much better either as McIlrath lays it on the line, leaving the listener to wonder if it is revenge our nation has been after since that Tuesday in early September, "let the blind lead the blind 'cause it's eye for an eye in your so called life."

"Last Chance Blueprint" contains sound bites from the Academy Award winning "American Beauty." And interestingly enough the hidden track on "Revolutions Per Minute" is a cover of Journey's "Any Way You Want it."

In the liner notes Rise Against notes that "Real revolution starts at learning. If you're not angry, then you are not paying attention." The band then lists six novels by the likes of Noam Chomsky, Kurt Vonnegut and George Orwell; recommended readings I tend to think.

While I can't say that I like this album as much as Rise Against's Fat debut, it has its moments and doesn't exactly fall victim to a sophomore slump. And when considering some of the lackluster material Fat has released lately, "Revolutions Per Minute" is one of the label's strongest albums this calendar year.

♦ *Punk rock vets, The Exploited, still raging about injustice*

By Mike Scales  
STAFF WRITER

For 22 years and counting, The Exploited have been making records that matter, spreading the word of chaos and forcing their

audience to pay closer attention to the social and political injustices that continue to plague their everyday lives. In 1981, they called their debut album "Punk's Not Dead." Now, in 2003, The Exploited have proved once again that punk rock is alive and kicking with the release of their eighth studio album, the metal-punk juggernaut that is "Fuck The System." Ahhh ... the f-word. Sometimes, I feel like I just can't hear enough of it these days. With songs titled "Fuck The System," "Fucking Liar," and "You're A Fucking Bastard," anybody angry at anything or anyone will be sure to find a little relief with The Exploited.

Like Motorhead on speed, "Fuck The System" kicks off with its blistering title track in a barrage of distorted bass and slick drumming. Singer Wattie Buchan spits the first lyrics in his trademark throaty vocal style, leading the sonic attack while backed by the frenzied playing of his guitarist and brother, Jamie Buchan. "It doesn't really matter what you got to say. They never fucking listen to you anyway." The track ends as abruptly as it began and just when you thought you could catch a breath, the fast and equally pummeling "Fucking Liar" bursts through and the record is off with its hardcore breakdowns reminiscent of Sick Of It All and ripping, Slayer-worthy guitar solos.

The next stand up tune on "Fuck The System" employs the classic punk rock model of repeating a line or two of lyrics until their meaning is forever ingrained in your mind. In this particular case, on "You're A Fucking Bastard," Wattie sticks it to whomever with the repeated line, "You're a fucking bastard, a shit fuck too."

As on their last record, 1996's "Beat The Bastards," The Exploited do a great job incorporating vocal samples of various dialogue to add a little variety between songs. One of these samples comes at the beginning of "There Is No Point," a tune about that creepy ex-girlfriend that simply won't let you be. The samples that book end the tune are of a girl's quiet, yet bitchy voice on an answering machine that begins, "Hello? Pick up your phone, shit-

head." Wattie's answer to the problem seems appropriate as he declares in the song, "We argue, scream, and start to shout, so what's the point?" Similarly, at the beginning of the fast and pounding track, "Chaos Is My Life," an eerie, devilish voice floats on a light guitar feedback saying, "Disorder... chaos ... anarchy ... now, that's fun."

Though, according to their bio on SpitfireRecords.com, The Exploited have been "tear gassed by German cops, banned from Holland, arrested in Spain, and have caused more carnage than a multi-car pile up on the M1," anger and frustration are not the only emotions expressed on "Fuck The System." In fact, one of the most impressively written songs on the album, "Was It Me," seems to be addressing a very personal issue of Wattie's. As the very last track on the record, the solemn message of a fallen friendship sticks with you and its emotional impact is great. "You never told me what we fell out about. Was it me? You would have done anything for me. We were best friends, why can't you see?"

So, with 22 years under their belt, The Exploited have proven that their brand of abrasive, metallic punk rock is far from dead. If you need death, I say, death to the Disney punks. They were dead when they started. Bands like Sum 41, New Found Glory and Good Charlotte can only dream of a career that lasts a decade, let alone two. Those bands will continue to put the good name of punk rock to shame as they burn out in the spotlight. The Exploited, on the other hand, have "been going on for fucking years now and punks [they're] going to stay. What you see is how it is. [They'll] never sell out - no way!"

♦ *Kung Fu Rick calls its following 'Coming to an End'*

By Colin McAuliffe  
PHOTO EDITOR

All good things must come to an end, and Kung Fu Rick's "Coming to an End" does just that. After being a band for seven years, the members decided to call it quits with one last record. With this being their last album, the appropriate title was the one they created. This

"Coming to an End"  
Kung Fu Rick

★★★

album, on 625 Thrash Records, may be a hard one to listen to for many people because it's on vinyl and I don't know too many people who have record players in their dorm rooms or apartments.

Twelve songs of venomous thrashcore are here to bite your head off with the first note. For those not familiar with thrashcore, it's the political lyrics of punk times three, so the songs are about a minute long.

John Finaldi's ferocious drum blasts and double bass drum and Dave Rudnik's dark and menacing bass lines added with John Mendola and Jason Zadora's guitar riffs and the dual vocal assault from Ryan Durkin and the Dark Enforcer seep painfully through the listener's ears.

The lyrics on this album run similar in themes to previous records, but still touch on fresh ideas. On "Red Shirt White Shirt Blue Shirt Torn," Durkin and the Enforcer attack advertising, popular name brands and how the brand names go for certain types or groups of people. "Advertisers and the media have trained us all. It doesn't matter what's on the inside anymore. They get the right one and the rest fall behind."

In "Online Journals and Bathroom Urinals," KFR calls out the people who hide behind their online journals. "Regurgitate your loss to communicate. Broken heart, the cry of graphic arts. Intelligence shy of relevance."

On the song "Coming to an End," the listener is left to wonder if KFR is singing about themselves or someone else. "It's long past time to move on. Some already have, but apparently we are too blind to get out. It's time to come to an end."

Don't worry fans, although KFR broke up, the members belong to many Midwest/Chicago area punk/hardcore bands. Rudnik is in Seven Days of Samsara from Milwaukee. Durkin, Zadora and Mendola all team up in the grindcore outfit called He Who Corrupts.

The album shows growth in this band from previous releases. Sadly, it is their last album. But if you go out, go out with a bang — they sure did.

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MOVIE REVIEWS

# ‘Phonebooth’ puts Farrell on the road to superstar status

By Ryan Rinchiuso  
STAFF WRITER

“Phone Booth” is a movie relying on its “infallable” premise and how said premise will work more than anything else. Like “Panic Room” and “Speed” before it, the viewer goes to see the film to see how the main character will get out of their mess.

In the beginning of “Phone Booth,” a voiceover tells the audience about the demise of phone booths thanks to cell phones and the last booth in Manhattan is going to be dismantled the next morning and Stu Shepard (Colin Farrell) will be its last user.

Shepard is a publicist that is sharply dressed, fast-talking and indifferent to anyone who can’t further his career. Although he has two cell phones, Stu uses the booth to call a potential girlfriend named Pam (Katie Holmes) so the number won’t be on the cell phone bill for his wife to see.

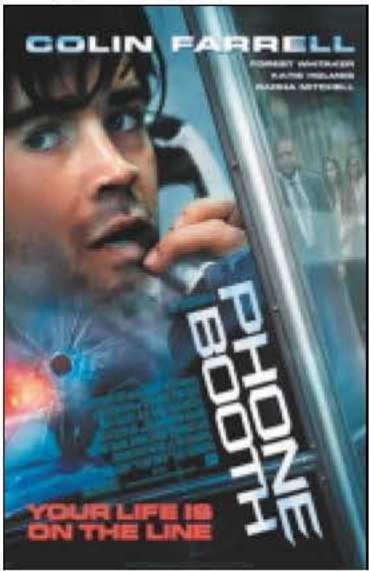
After talking to Pam, Stu hangs up and starts to leave the booth when the phone rings again. Human nature takes over and Shepard answers the phone. The voice on the other end (Kiefer Sutherland) tells Stu he is guilty of the “sin of spin” and will be punished.

The voice on the line goes on to say that he has a powerful rifle on Shepard and if Shepard tries to leave, he will die. After proving to Stu that he is not bluffing, a man is dead and Shepard has to deal with both the crazy man on the phone and the cops who believe Shepard shot the man.

“Phone Booth” is a relatively short film, ending in less than 90 minutes, with all but three to five of those minutes inside the booth, focusing only on Stu. This means Farrell had to carry the movie all by himself.

Farrell, in the past year, has been receiving more popularity and critical acclaim with each movie he has made. Yet, in the other films, such as “Minority Report,” “The Recruit” and “Daredevil,” Farrell was never the main draw and had Tom Cruise, Al Pacino and Ben Affleck to share the spotlight with. “Phone Booth” is the movie that proves that Farrell has what it takes to be a superstar.

The audience is with Farrell



“Phone Booth”  
Joel Shumacher, director  
☆☆☆

through the entire movie and he does not become tiring to watch. The quiet intensity he brings to the role keeps the viewer interested and makes them genuinely care what will happen to him.

Kiefer Sutherland as the voice of the sniper is perfectly cast. Sutherland’s voice is very distinct and his way of delivering lines is perfect for the role of crazy, righteous man. Sutherland had me smiling when he was taunting Shepard and had one of the best evil cackles heard in film for many years.

Joel Shumacher, who is the anti-Christ when given a big budget, (see “Batman and Robin” and “Bad Company”) skillfully directs the action while keeping it grounded in the reality the script calls for.

Shumacher also shows a great deal of restraint in the film; never jumping to another scene away from the phone booth, keeping the amount of split screens to a minimum and resisting the urge to tack on 20 minutes of filler to the film to make it a reasonable length.

To enjoy “Phone Booth,” you have to be interested in the premise. If the idea of watching a man talk in a phone booth for 90 minutes makes you either laugh or cringe, it would not be wise to see this film.

The first time I heard about the movie, I was interested in seeing how it played out. After

seeing the film, I can honestly say it worked for me quite well.

♦ *Clooney’s directorial debut, ‘Confessions,’ a dark-comedy*

By Ryan Rinchiuso  
STAFF WRITER

Anyone who has ever read Chuck Barris’ “Confessions of a Dangerous Mind” has thought to themselves that Barris must be crazy, depressed or one of the most clever men in the world. By writing his own unauthorized autobiography, Barris paints his world of game shows and show business with tales of espionage in the Cold War era. The book is one of the strangest things ever written and George Clooney, in his directorial debut, tries to recreate this for the film to modest success.

Chuck Barris (Sam Rockwell), the creator of such shows as “The Dating Game,” “The Newlywed Game” and “The Gong Show,” was also a CIA hitman— at least according to the movie. While scooping out new locations for prize packages or chaperoning the dates of the winners on the Dating Game, Barris would disappear for a bit to take out someone who was perceived to be a danger to national security.

The only people who know his double life is his handler, a man named Byrd (George Clooney) and another agent by the name of Patricia (Julia Roberts). Barris is mostly alone in the world and depressed except for his meetings with the love of his life Penny (Drew Barrymore).

While the premise sounds like a comedy, thanks to the script by Charlie Kaufman, there is also a very dark tint filtering the film. Barris, while being successful, hates his life and career. He believes his life is meaningless and starts to believe all the bad press about himself.

The reason this is worth mentioning is because the advertising of this film makes it look like a non-stop comedy, which it certainly is not.

Kaufman, the mad genius of such films of “Adaptation” and “Being John Malkovich,” always has moments of laugh out loud brilliance but is usually sur-



PHOTO COURTESY OF ZAP2IT.COM

Barrymore, Rockwell and Clooney in “Confessions of a Dangerous Mind.”

rounded by melancholy moments. “Confessions of a Dangerous Mind” is no different.

If lines as bleak as “Insane asylums are filled with people who think they’re Jesus or Satan. Very few have delusions of being a guy down the block who works for an insurance company” or “when you’re in a relationship it means you are obligated to give a shit,” will kind of make you laugh, then this is the perfect film.

Clooney, in his directorial debut, was clearly influenced by his collaborator and partner, famed director Steven Soderbergh. Many moments of the film are shot to look like they are directly out of the ‘60s and ‘70s and many others were shot in a way to convey Barris’ paranoia.

The strongest part of the film is definitely the acting job of Sam Rockwell. After giving memorable supporting performances is “Green Mile” “Charlie’s Angels” and “Galaxy Quest,” Rockwell steps up and proves he is worthy of leading roles.

His off-kilter performance of Chuck Barris was one of the best performances of 2002 and should have garnered him an Oscar nomination. Rockwell was able to bounce from scenes of sorrow, to self loathing to hilarity with relative ease. Rockwell was also able to make the audience care about Barris even though he was a repulsive character.

“Confessions of a Dangerous

“Confessions of a Dangerous Mind”  
George Clooney, director  
☆☆☆

Mind” is the very definition of a black comedy. The movie is bleak, slow and funny depending on the scene and the viewer’s sense of humor.

While the movie does seem to ground to a halt a few times near the end, it is still worth seeing for fans of the book, the stars or black comedies.

“Confessions of a Dangerous Mind” was supposed to show this Saturday at Buzzard Auditorium but Miramax pulled the film at the last minute because they plan to rerelease it in the theatres. “The Recruit” starring Al Pacino and Colin Farrell will show instead at 5 and 8 p.m.

## The best of Coles County

♦ Deadline for ballots for the best of Coles County has been extended to Monday at 5 p.m. Vote for the best the area has to offer in food, drink, entertainment and people. Look for ballots around campus or stop by the DEN newsroom (1811 Buzzard) to pick one up. E-mail The Verge at [eiuverge@hotmail.com](mailto:eiuverge@hotmail.com) and we’ll E-mail you ballot. Winners will be featured in the April 25 issue of The Verge.

# War of words gone too far in hip-hop

The war of words in the rap game is reaching higher stakes.

Rapper Ja Rule has finished a freestyle which could bring devastating consequences in the end. In “Loose Change,” Rule disses 50 Cent, referring to his foe as loose change. “50’s team of peons” are some words spewed in Rule’s song. Rule doesn’t stop there as no one is safe from his vicious rage which includes an executive, women, friends and even a child.

The diss hits an all time low with Ja Rule discussing Dr. Dre and Eminem’s sexuality. Rule even prophesizes Eminem’s daughter will grow up to be a lady of the night. What was surprising was the attack on his friend Lil Mo, who Rule has collaborated with on several occasions. And Ja Rule insults yet another friend in Busta Rhymes, calling him a coward.

Where does this leave hip hop? People say rappers use insults to create album sales, but how long does it take before the malicious words and violence become a reality?

The Violator Management office was shot up a couple months ago. The NYPD believe it could be in connection with someone’s association with Murder Inc. who are suspected of plotting against 50 Cent, who is an artist under Violator management. Busta Rhymes has also allegedly connected Murder Inc. with a shooting of his SUV last month.

When people start shooting this



Tim Edwards  
STAFF WRITER

becomes real life, not simply entertainment. 50 Cent has to walk around with a bulletproof vest and drive in a bulletproof car to ensure his safety.

This is not a publicity stunt. The man was shot nine times. The FBI even has employees watching 50 Cent. If the war on words continues, there is no telling what will happen in hip-hop.

The Jay Z and Nas feud was supposed to be about wax, but when Nas’ mom died, Nas almost went across the line. He started to insult Jay Z along with people he didn’t know. Nas was so upset because of his mother’s death he turned on his friends like Noreaga.

Whatever happened to rappers who had something to say about social issues.

Public Enemy was one of the most respected rap outfits of the late ‘80s and early ‘90s and they never got into it with their fellow hip-hop stars. Rather they took on those who they felt were

responsible for the oppression and inequality that they had experienced. Last time I checked Chuck D or Flavor-Flav didn’t have to worry about wearing a bulletproof vest.

Rappers need to be careful what they say. Many rappers come from a life on the streets where they don’t take negative comments lightly. There is no anger management in the streets. This can build up the tension especially when record labels are helping provoke the wars because they see money signs with rappers having beefs with each other.

Hip-hop has always had a history of life imitating art, and that fact makes comments harder to ignore.

Artists in the hip-hop world need to stay away from insulting each other. Rappers should worry about taking care of their families or doing something positive in their community. This macho “I’m the man” stuff can end up getting them killed. Rappers who are selling millions of albums don’t have any business trying to be a thug. They have too much to lose.

What a shame if all the work any rapper does to get out of the street life goes in vain because the rapper couldn’t leave the street lifestyle. If you live by the street, you will die by the street.

Only time will tell whether rappers will realize you can handle your differences without putting down another brother in the rap game.

## CONCERT CALENDAR

<b>Friday</b> ♦ Seven Day Run The Uptowner 10 p.m. \$2	♦ Soloflyer, The Party of Helicopters, Disengage Friends & Co. 10 p.m. \$3	♦ The Blackouts, Terminus Victor April 18 Friends & Co. St. Louis
♦ Bleed, The Slurs Friends & Co. 10 p.m. \$2	♦ 56 Hope Road The Uptowner 10 p.m. \$2	♦ Jurassic 5 April 16 House of Blues Chicago
♦ 5 Gone Mad Gunner Bucs 9 p.m. \$5	♦ Eleven Days Gunner Bucs 9 p.m. \$5	♦ Ani DiFranco April 18 The Pageant St. Louis
♦ Ryan Navel and Matt Rennels Jackson Avenue Coffee 8 p.m. no cover	♦ Art show featuring Leeroy Jones and Dustin Stiemann Jackson Avenue Coffee 7 p.m. no cover	♦ ...And You Will Know Us By The Trail of the Dead April 25 Mississippi Nights St. Louis
♦ Alias Jane Charleston Eagles 9 p.m. no cover	<b>Sunday</b> ♦ Ryan Groff Acoustic Night at The Uptowner 8 p.m. no cover	♦ Sum 41 April 28 The Pageant St. Louis
♦ Comeidan Danielle Broussard 7th Street Underground 9 p.m. no cover	<b>Wednesday</b> ♦ Freedom Sings Grand Ballroom 7 p.m. no cover	♦ Yeah Yeah Yeahs April 30 Metro Chicago
<b>Saturday</b> ♦ Earthfest featuring Fadproof, Labelled, Edison's Medicine and Ryan Groff Library Quad 2 p.m. no cover	<b>Upcoming shows</b> ♦ Counting Crows, Six Pense None the Richer April 18 Lantz Arena	♦ De La Soul May 2 House of Blues Chicago